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HISTORY

AND

ANTIQUITIES

OF THE

COUNTY of NORFOLK.

VOLUME VI.

CONTAINING

THE HUNDREDS OF

North Greenhoe, South Greenhoe, Grimshoe, and Guiltcross.

Pro me: si merear, in me.

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M.DCC.LXXXI.

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THE HISTORY OF NORFOLK.

HUNDRED of N. GREENHOE.

THE royalties of this hundred, as alſo of the lordſhip of Wighton, are recorded in Doomſday-book to be at that time in the crown, in like manner as Edward the Confeſſor had poſſeſſed them.

Henry II. granted it to William de Kaion, or Ken, who confirmed to the priory church of Norwich, all the right and juriſdiction which he had in lands belonging to them in this liberty: but in the 29th of Henry III. William, the grandſon of Ken the Norman, forfeited it on his rebellion againſt that monarch, and it was given to Philip de Albini.

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ince Edward poſſeſſed the lordſhip of North Greenhoe and Wighton in the 34th of that reign, but they were given to Jeffrey de Lyſignan, the king's half brother, ſeven years afterwards in lieu of lands he held in Ireland; whoſe ſon, Jeffrey, dying towards the end of Edward I. left Drogo de Merlaw his nephew and heir.

The 11th of Edward II. Drogo died, and left two daughters and co-heirs; Joan, married to Ralph, earl of Ewe and Guyſnes in France, and Margaret, a minor. His ſon, Robert, earl of Ewe, and conſtable of France, held this paramount lordſhip; but taking part with Philip de Valois, king in France, was taken priſoner in the 19th of Edward III. at Caen in Normandy; and though he paid a ranſome of eighty thouſand florins, was deprived of all his lands in England. The victorious Edward gave thoſe lands to his no leſs ſucceſsful conſort Philippa, at whoſe death they were granted to ſir Robert Knowls.

In the 46th of this reign, John of Gaunt held them, with the manor of Fakenham, and ſo became a part of the dutchy of Lancaſter, lodged in the crown.

This hundred is ſaid to have taken its name from a hill, or hills; *hoe* ſignifying in the Saxon *hill:* Green-hoe, or Green-hill; and North is added, to diſtinguiſh it from South Greenhoe.

There are many ſmall hills in Norfolk called *Hoe*, but we do not find more than one ſo called in this hundred; and as it is in the farm of Honcle-crondale, where Parkins ſays the hundred-court was formerly held, it is very probable that the court was held on the ſame ſpot that gave name to the hundred.

dred. The court of the dutchy of Lancaſter is now held at Wighton.

North Greenhoe is about eight miles from eaſt to weſt, and ſeven north and ſouth; is bounded by the Britiſh ocean on the north, by the hundred of Brothercroſs on the weſt; has Gallow on the ſouth, and Holt on the eaſt: comprehends ſixteen pariſhes, all of which, except Cockthorpe and Field-Dalling, are in the deanry of Walſingham, and archdeaconry of Norfolk.

The ſoil in general is light, but there are rich grounds in the vale, through which the river runs from Snoring to Stifkey, and which let from twenty to thirty ſhillings per acre, and upwards. Marl is found in moſt places; and no part of Norfolk abounds more with hares, patridges, pheaſants, and the other ſpecies of fleet and feathered game common to this country.

The face of the country is beautifully diverſified, which cannot be ſeen from any place to more advantage than Great Snoring church. The proſpect to the north terminating with the ocean, is a fine relief to the landſcape.

The number of votes polled by freeholders reſident in this hundred at the great conteſted election for knight of the ſhire, at Norwich, May 23, 1768, between ſir Armine Wodehouſe, bart. Thomas de Grey, eſq. ſir Edward Aſtley, bart. and Wenman Coke, eſq.

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Barney - -	0	0	6	6
Binham - -	2	3	1	0
Dowling, Field -	1	2	10	0
Hindringham -	2	7	16	7
Holkham - -	1	1	6	6
Houghton in the Hole	0	0	1	1
Quarles - -	0	0	1	1
Snoring, Great -	3	4	5	0
Stifkey - -	3	3	0	0
Thursford - -	0	1	10	9
Walfingham, Great -	1	1	8	6
Walfingham, Little -	7	6	28	23
Warham - -	8	8	0	0
Wells - - -	21	31	20	32
Wighton - -	4	5	8	9
Total	53	72	120	109

Seats and principal Houfes in NORTH GREENHOE Hundred.

Holkham, Thomas William Coke, efq. M. P.
Stifkey, Rev. Arthur Brandwayte.
Thursford, George Chad, efq.
Walfingham, Henry Lee-Warner, efq.
Warham, fir John Turner, bart.

BERNEY, or BARNEY, in Doomfday-book is called Berlei, from Bur or Ber, a hill by the water.† King

† Vide Parkin, who feems to have had no other criterion for his opinion as an etymologift than the elements of earth and water. Hills and rivers muft have been very plenty in Norfolk before the Conqueft, fince the antients gave fuch Names only to places as beft fuited their fituation on either.

King William I. gave it to Peter lord Valoins: at the ſurvey, William held it under this lord Peter, who was probably anceſtor of the family of de Berney, now baronets.

Binham Priory Manor. Roger de Valoins, ſon of lord Peter, confirmed the grant of his kinſman, Walter de Valoins, before he was ſhorn a monk; of his lordſhip here, with land at Thurſford, with the conſent of Rohais his wife, to this priory, by laying on the altar a knife.

Several gifts of land were confirmed to this priory manor.

On the diſſolution of the priory this lordſhip was granted, November 15, in the 33d of Henry VIII. to Thomas Paſton, eſq. Edward Paſton was lord in 1572; and Mary Paſton, widow of Thomas Paſton, eſq. ſon and heir of Edward Paſton of Appleton, and Winter Bernigham, held it in jointure in 1625: ſhe was daughter of ſir George Brown, of Shelford in Berkſhire, and re-married ſir Henry Compton, of Suſſex, knight of the Bath.

Afterwards it was ſold to the Aſtleys, and ſir Jacob Aſtley, bart. lord and patron, preſented to the vicarage in 1660, and his deſcendent, ſir Edward Aſtley, bart. member of parliament for the county, is the preſent lord and patron.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and was a rectory granted by Edward III. to the priory of Binham.

The church is a ſingle pile, and has a ſquare tower, with three bells; it is covered with lead, and the chancel is tiled.

In the church is a graveſtone:——*Orate p. aïa. Hen. Blower, ais. Barker de Barney.*

In the chancel:—*Orate p. aïa. Tho. Lound, nup. vicar. huj. eccle.*

The Rev. Thomas Meux was preſented to this vicarage by ſir Edward Aſtley, of Melton-Conſtable, 1777.

BINHAM was granted to Peter lord Valoins, the Conqueror's nephew, at the ſurvey.

Peter, the lord, and Albreda his wife, founded here, with the conſent of the Conqueror, a priory of Benedictine Monks, dedicated to St. Mary, as a cell to the abbey of St. Alban's, but to be ſubject only, as the priory of Lewes was, to that of St. Peter of Clugni, in France, and paying only to St. Alban's a mark of ſilver annually; but not finiſhed till the beginning of the reign of Henry I.

The founder endowed it with the lordſhip of this town, and other conſiderable grants of land, &c. and Roger, his ſon, confirmed what his father had given, and was himſelf a conſiderable benefactor, as were Peter and Robert de Valoins, who were buried here.

Henry I. gave them a charter for a fair, for four days, beginning on the vigil of St. Mary, and a weekly market on Wedneſdays. And in the 2d of king John, a fine was levied, wherein William de Chaen, or Ken, lord of North Greenhoe hundred and Wighton, grants to the prior, certain cuſtoms due to him as lord, and the prior grants that the men of Wighton ſhould be free from toll in Binham market.

In

BINHAM PRIORY



Marcus Armstrong del

Edge sculp

In the ſaid reign, Robert lord Fitzwalter claimed the patronage of the priory, and beſieged it, in order to reinſtate Thomas the prior, depoſed by the prior of St. Alban's, and the king ſends forces to defend it. Pope Innocent, in 1250, confirmed by bull the grant of the church of Weſtley, in Cambridgeſhire, to them; and Reginald de Bacon, in the 46th of Henry III. gave a moiety of Letheringſet church, near Holt; and in the 14th of Edward II. there were reſident, as is ſaid, a prior and thirteen monks.

King Henry VIII. in his 35d year, granted to Thomas Paſton, eſq. the ſcite of this priory, with the manor and rectory, lands in Walſingham, Wells, Gunthorpe, Barney, Thurſford, &c.

Thomas was the fifth ſon of ſir William Paſton, of Paſton, afterwards a knight, and father of ſir Edward, who died lord in 1630: his deſcendent, Edward Paſton, eſq. lord of this manor, and of Barningham, &c. married Mary daughter and coheir of John Clerk, gent. of Bale in Norfolk, by whom he had —— Paſton, eſq. who ſold this lordſhip and that of Barningham, in or about the year 1756, to Mr. William Ruſſell, a whale-bone merof King's ſtreet, Cheapſide, London.

Mr. Samuel Buck publiſhed a print of the ruins of this priory, and its church, dedicated to the Holy Croſs, in 1738; and as there is yet no material alteration ſince that time, a copy from the ſame print, equally well executed, is hereunto annexed.

The remains of this religious fabrick are very extenſive and beautiful, affording one of the ſureſt teſtimonies of the zeal and purity of the times.

The weſt front of the building, now in uſe as the parith church, is extremely well deſigned and executed: the ſituation on the declivity to a fine ſtream, over which has been a bridge to the north, is remarkably well choſen, and the whole wears a ſolemn, auguſt appearance. It ſeems to have been built with a croſs iſle to the eaſt end, and a bell-tower to the weſt; encompaſſed with a wall, or lodgments: round the area of the field, which contains ten or twelve acres, is a wall, excepting to the river, with a gate-houſe at the principal entrance from the weſt.

The Rev. Mr. Samuel Hemington was preſented to this vicarage by king George II. in 1750.

COCKTHORPE. In the grand ſurvey it is called Thorpe, but to diſtinguiſh it from other towns in Norfolk of that name, gained the additional name of Coke or Cocke, ſetting forth its ſcite to be near ſome river or water, as Cockley-Clay, Cokefford, &c.*

Part of this town on the conqueſt was held by William Beaufoe, biſhop of Thetford, in right of that fee, and was poſſeſſed by biſhop Almar, in the time of king Edward, belonging to his manor of Langham. Another part, conſiſting of one hundred acres of land, &c. was invaded, or ſeized on by biſhop Beaufoe.

In the reign of Henry III. Thomas Bacon was found to hold a quarter of a fee of Hugh lord Bardolf, Hugh of the biſhop of Norwich, and the biſhop of the king *in capite*; and Roger ſon of Thomas Bacon was lord, and preſented to the church of Cockthorpe in the fourteenth century.

* Parkin.

Afterwards it came to ſir Oliver Calthorpe, by the marriage of Iſabel, daughter of ſir Robert, and ſiſter and co-heir of Bartholomew Bacon, of Erwarton in Suffolk. The ſaid Iſabel, dying in the 12th year of Henry IV. gave by will this lordſhip, with that of Snitterly or Blakeney, to her ſecond ſon, Richard Calthorpe, eſq. he married Margaret, daughter of William, and ſiſter and heir of John Irmingland, rector of Stifkey St. John, who was buried before the Holy Croſs in the church of Cockthorpe, as was alſo his wife, who ſurvived him ten years.

John Calthorpe, eſq. was their ſon and heir, and married Alice daughter of John Aſtley, eſq. of Melton-Conſtable in Norfolk. He died in 1503, and was buried in the middle of the chancel of the monaſtery church of the Carmes at Blakeney, of which he was the principal founder. Alice his wife, ſurvived him and was buried by him, by whom he had Chriſtopher, who was alſo lord of Starſton, in right of Alianore his wife, one of the daughters and heirs of Robert Bernard, eſq. and Ann his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Pygott, gent. He died in 1547, and was buried in the church of Cockthorpe.

James Calthorpe, eſq. his ſon, married Elizabeth daughter of Robert Garniſh, of Kenton in Suffolk, eſq. and brought to this family Fiſhly manor, in Norfolk, &c.

Chriſtopher, his ſon and heir, was admitted a ſtudent in Lincoln's Inn. Joan his wife ſurvived him, and re-married ſir Jerome Bowes, of London.

James Calthorpe, eſq. her ſon and heir, was a knight, high ſheriff of Norfolk in the 13th of king James; he married Barbara daughter of Francis Bacon, of Heſſet in Suffolk, eſq. and died June 15, in the 12th of king James. Barbara his wife ſurvived him, and they were both buried and had a monument in the church of Cockthorpe.

Chriſtopher Calthorpe, eſq. was his ſon and heir, who married about the 44th of Elizabeth, Maud daughter and co-heir of John Thurſton, of Broome in Norfolk, eſq. and died March 14, in the 23d of James I.

On the 16th of February, in the 15th of Charles I. James Calthorpe, ſon and heir of Chriſtopher Calthorpe, deceaſed, had livery of Blakeney manor, called Holywell's Hall, and the advowſon of the church, with the chapel of Glanford annexed, &c.

This James ſold to Henry Calthorpe, of Ampton in Suffolk, eſq. this lordſhip. Sir Henry was his uncle, and an eminent lawyer, ſolicitor general to queen Henrietta Maria, and of her council, recorder of London, &c.

Sir Henry was found to die ſeiſed of this manor, thoſe of Aldby, Blakeney, Wiveton, Acle, &c. in Norfolk, and that of Ampton in Suffolk, on the firſt of Auguſt, 1637, leaving by Dorothy, daughter and co-heir of Edward Humfrey, gent. James his ſon and heir, aged eleven years, who married the daughter of —— Reynolds, ſiſter of ſir John Reynolds, of Hampſhire.

This James Calthorpe is ſaid to have been knighted by Oliver Cromwell: he had three ſons, James, Chriſtopher,

Chriſtopher, and Reynolds. James Calthorpe, eſq. was lord in 1698.

In Cockthorpe-hall were theſe arms, Calthorpe impaling Bacon of Heſſet, argent on a feſs ingrailed, between three eſcutcheons, gules, as many mullets, or.——Calthorpe, quartering Bacon, and Bernard, argent, two greyhounds indorſed, ſable, collared, or. ——Pigot, argent, three mullets, in bend, between two bendlets, gules; and Rookwood, argent, three cheſs rooks, ſable, and ermine, on a feſs ſable, three croſſes pattee, argent: creſt, a boar's head, azure.

In the reign of Henry III. Peter de Ringſtede was alſo found to hold the fourth part of a fee of the lord Bardolph; after which it came to John Calthorpe, eſq. and his heirs, and ſo is united with the other part.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and the Rev. Mr. Henry Calthorpe was preſented to this rectory and Blakeney by James Calthorpe, eſq. of Ampton, near Bury St. Edmund's, 1743.

DALLING, or FIELD-DAWLING, to diſtinguiſh it from Wood-Dawling, in the hundred of Eynsford; called Dalinga in the grand ſurvey, from its ſcite in a watry vale, or dale.* At the ſurvey it was held by the Conqueror, and was a beruite to the lordſhip of Holt.

Robert de Verli had alſo a lordſhip at the ſurvey.

The king's manor abovementioned was granted from the crown to the earls Warren, of whom it was held by the family of de Bacon.

* Parkin.

Hardwin Bacon preſented Richard de Saxlingham to the rectory of this church, about the reign of Henry II. and granted two parts of the tithe of his demeans to the priory of Caſtleacre.

The manor of Verli, of which Ralph (probably earl of Norfolk, who rebelled againſt the Conqueror) was deprived, was held of the family of de Dalling.

Roger de Woolterton preſented to the church, as lord, in 1348; as did Simon Babingley in 1389, William Walſham in 1384, and William in the Fen in the ſaid year: about the end of this year William Walſham, and others, alienated this rectory to the college of St. Mary in the Fields, at Norwich: and Henry, then biſhop, appropriated it on March 11, reſerving to himſelf a penſion of 40s. and of 3s. 6d. to the prior and convent of Norwich, per ann. and on this a vicarage was ſettled.

In the 3d of Henry VI. the lord Eardolph held it of the earl Warren, and in the 5th of Henry VI. Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter, was found to die ſeiſed of it, and John Rokewode held it of him.

William Sutton conveyed it by fine, in the 2d of Henry VII. to John Wyndham, eſq. a moiety of Field-Dawling manor; and in the 23d of that king the manor of Gibbs, in this town, was conveyed to him.

William Heydon, eſq. was lord in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and ſir Chriſtopher Heydon died lord of Field-Dawling, Woolterton, and Gibbs manors, in 1579.

After

After this Nicolas Styleman, eſq. held it, and ſo came to the Harbords. of Gunton, and ſir Harbord Harbord, bart. is the preſent lord.

John Wiliby poſſeſſed a manor here, in the 3d of Henry IV. it was then in the king's hand on account of the minority of the duke of Britaigne. Edmund earl of Richmond held it *in capite*, and died ſeiſed of it in the 35th of Henry VI.

Mountgrace Priory. Maud de Harſcove, in the reign of king Henry II. gave to the abbey of Savigny in Normandy, a manor in this town, whereupon there came over ſome Ciſtercian Monks of that place, of which this is ſometimes mentioned as a cell, or priory of itſelf, and, ſometimes as parcel of Long Benington priory in Lincolnſhire. Upon the diſſolution of alien priories, it was given firſt to Epworth, then to the Spittle on the Street, Lincolnſhire; after that to the Carthuſians near Coventry, by king Richard II. and afterwards to the priory of Mountgrace, in Yorkſhire, and as parcel of this laſt priory was granted, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, to Martin Haſtings and James Bourne.

James Bourne died November 20, in the 12th of Elizabeth. ſeiſed of this lordſhip, and of the rectory, and advowſon of the vicarage, leaving it to his nephew James Bourne.

In the 16th of Elizabeth, Martin Haſting, by licence, alienated his right to Charles Stutvyle; and it was afterwards conveyed to William Heydon, eſq. and ſo united to the lordſhips above.

The church, which conſiſts of two iſles, a chancel, and has three bells, is dedicated to St. Andrew,

was

was a rectory in the 4th of Richard II. and is now a vicarage.

On a grave-ſtone in the ſouth iſle, with a braſs plate:

Hic jacet Joh. Nicholas et Margareta uxor ejus qui dederunt crucem argenteam huic eccles. qui quid. Joh. ob. 22, Januar. 1485.

The Rev. Mr. Repps Browne, M. A. was preſented to this vicarage by Alice Winn, a minor, 1763.

EGMERE. The principal lordſhip of Edgamer, as it is wrote in the book of Doomſday, was in the fee of Hertford, and held by Ailmer biſhop of Elmham, in the time of the Confeſſor. Morel held it of William Beaufoe, biſhop, at the ſurvey; and it ſeems to take its name as being ſeated near ſome mere, or moor.*

In the reign of Henry III. Agnes de Mortimer, William de Shipdham, and Godwin de Thornham, held lands here belonging to the fee of Norwich.

John Leche, in the 20th of Edward III. was found to hold the half fee which William de Shipdham formerly held: in the 27th of the ſaid king, John de Woolterton, rector of Harpley, conveyed it to John de Egmere, uſher of the Exchequer, and his heirs.

In

* Vide Parkin.—Mere is a low ſwampy meadow, or lake: Egmere ſtands on high ground, and probably was called Edgemoor, as Edgefield near Holt, on an eminence.

In 1418 William Winter, eſq. preſented to this church: ſoon after it ſeems to have been in the hands of certain truſtees, who had licence on March 3, in the 3d year of Henry VI. to alien this manor of Egmere, with the patronage of the church, to the prior and convent of Walſingham.

On the diſſolution of the ſaid priory it came to the crown, and king Henry VIII. on the 22d of March, in his 30th year, grants it to James Bulleyne, in exchange for the manors of Heverreal, and Kemſing in Kent. After this it came to ſir Thomas Greſham knt. whoſe widow, lady Ann, ſold it to ſir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and his deſcendent, the late ſir Edmund Bacon, bart. died poſſeſſed of it: his daughter, Mrs. Mary Bacon, of Ryborough, is the preſent lady of the manor, and patron.

The church, of which nothing is left but the tower, is a rectory, and the inhabitants go to the church of Waterden, and are there buried, &c. Sir Nicholas Bacon is ſaid to have profaned it, and turned it into a barn.

The Rev. Mr. Charles Mordaunt, rector of Little Maſſingham, was preſented to this rectory by Mrs. Mary Bacon, 1761.

HINDRINGHAM. The capital lordſhip of this town belonged to the biſhop of Elmham, in king Edward's reign. William Beaufoe, biſhop of Thetford, was lord of it at the ſurvey.

Dean and Chapter of Norwich's Manor. Herbert biſhop of Norwich, on his founding the priory

priory of Norwich gave this lordſhip to it, and was held by the prior and convent of Norwich.

This lordſhip is now in the dean and chapter of Norwich.

Nowers's Manor. In the reign of king John, William de Nowers, &c. held lands in this manor.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Thomas de Eſtle, or Aſtley, held of the lord Bardolph and he of the biſhop. late Nowers; and Thomas Aſtley, eſq. ſon and heir, forfeited this manor in the 7th of Henry VII. as a jointure on Elizabeth daughter of William Clipſby, of Oby. In the 30th of Henry VIII. Thomas Aſtley, and John, his ſon and heir, ſold it to ſir Roger Townſhend, of Rainham; and George Townſhend, eſq. with Alice his wife, paſſed it in queen Mary's reign to Thomas Townſhend, eſq. From the Townſhends it was conveyed about 1570, to Martin Hallings, who ſold it to Giles Mabbs, or Nabbs, gent. he left two daughters and co-heirs, Mary married to Riches Brown, eſq. of Fulmondiſton, and ——, married to James Ward, gent. of Hindringham.

Wilby's Manor. Another part of this great epiſcopal lordſhip was in the hands of the antient family of de Burgolion; and Ralph ſon of John de Rudham, held of Robert Burgolion, in the time of Henry III.

John de Wilby and Joan Hervey, held of Ralph de Aſtley, Edward II.

In the 5th of Henry VI. Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter, died ſeiſed (as lord of Wormegay, the Bardolphs

Bardolphs eſtate) of lands here, &c. and in the 22d of Henry VIII. this lordſhip of Wilby was poſſeſſed by John Hall, of Halſted in Lincolnſhire.

Pernow Hall. This was alſo a lordſhip belonging to the biſhop's ſee, and in the reign of Edward III. was poſſeſſed by John de Egmere, and is ſaid to be held of the manor of Nowers, in this town.

In the 13th of Henry VI. Richard Chappe grants to Henry Beaufort, cardinal and biſhop of Winchester, William de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, ſir Thomas Kerdeſton, ſir Thomas Tuddenham, William Billingford, eſq. &c. his manor of Pernow-Hall, in Hindringham, to them and their heirs for ever. After this it came to the Wilbys, who held it of the Aſtleys, lords of the manor of Nowers. Richard Wilby paſſed it in the 32d of Henry VIII. to Edmund Framingham.

George Davy, of Gunthorpe, died ſeiſed of it September 4, in the laſt year of Philip and Mary. Richard Godfrey, eſq. about the 20th of Elizabeth, purchaſed this manor of Chriſtopher Davy.

Coldham Hall. William Banyard had this hall conveyed to him, in the 16th of Edward IV. by Thomas Gloys.

In the 27th of Henry VIII. John Wotton, and William Fermor, eſq. held of the biſhop. After this it was poſſeſſed by Francis Bedingfield, who ſold it in the 34th of Elizabeth to Richard Godfrey, eſq. abovementioned, and ——— Godfrey, eſq. a maſter in chancery, ſold it to Iſaac Le-Heup, eſq.

Michael

Michael Le-Heup, eſq. of Bury St. Edmund's, is the preſent lord.

Beſides the abovementioned lordſhips, the king had a ſmall fee at the ſurvey, in this town; as had alſo, Drogo de Beuraria, or Drew de Beveres, a noble Fleming, who attended the Conqueror on the invaſion, and made by him Lord of Holderneſs, in Yorkſhire, with a grant of theſe manors in Norfolk: Baſingham and Barningham, in North Erpingham hundred; Saxlingham, in Henſtead hundred; Burgh and Erpingham, in South Erpingham hundred; with this of Hindringham.

The church, which is a lofty ſtructure, with five bells, was anciently a rectory, dedicated to St. Martin. From the top of the church tower, there is one of the moſt beautiful and extenſive proſpects to be found in the county of Norfolk.

In the chancel window, an orate for ſir Robert Walkfare, knt. with his arms, and one for Thomas Swellington, with his arms; as were alſo the arms of the lords Bardolph and Morley.

The Rev. Mr. Lancaſter Framingham was preſented to this vicarage, by the dean and chapter of Norwich, 1768.

HOLKHAM. The principal lordſhip of this town was after the conqueſt granted to Tovi, one of the Conqueror's attendants. Tovi had, beſides this manor, the grant of ſix lordſhips in this county.

On the death of Tovi it came as an eſcheat to the crown, and was granted by William II. to his great favourite, William de Albini, his butler, (*Pincerna*

cerna Regis) anceſtor of the earls of Arundel, lord of Wymondham, Riſing-Caſtle, and Buckenham, who enfeoffed Hubert de Monchenſi thereof, anceſtor of the lords de Monchenſi. Sir Warin de Monchenſi had a charter of free warren in the reign of Henry III. and Thomas de Holkham releaſed to him in 1227, common of paſture, &c.

William lord Monchenſi, his ſon and heir, left a daughter and ſole heir, Dionyſia, who brought it by marriage in 1296, to ſir Hugh de Vere, a younger ſon of Robert earl of Oxford, being held of the lord Tateſhale, who married one of the heireſſes of the earl of Arundel, and having no iſſue, this lordſhip came to Adomare de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, and Joan his wife, ſiſter of William lord Monchenſi, father of the aforeſaid Dionyſia.

On the death of Adomare de Valentia, in the 17th of Edward II. and a diviſion of his inheritance, it was aſſigned to David de Strathbolgi, in right of Joan his wife, daughter of John Comyn, lord of Badenough, in Inverneſs-ſhire, by Joan his wife, one of the ſiſters and co-heirs of the ſaid Adomare, where it remained 'till his deſcendent, David earl of Athol, on his death, in the 49th of Edward III left it to his two daughters and co-heirs, (Elizabeth and Philippa) by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of the lord Ferrers, of Groveby.

Elizabeth, the eldeſt, married firſt ſir Thomas Percy, and ſecondly ſir John Scrope; being a widow, in 1388 conveyed it to ſir John Halſham, of Kent, and Philippa his wife, her ſiſter.

In 1395 John Halſham, eſq. ſon and heir of Philippa was lord in the 3d of Henry V. Sir Hugh

de Haiſham died lord in the 20th of Henry VI. when Jean daughter and heir of Richard Haiſham, his brother, wife of John Lewkenor, eſq. of Goring in Suſſex, was his heir. John Lewkenor, eſq. in the 4th of Edward IV. ſettled it by fine on Thomas Randolph, with the manor of Weſt Lexham.

After this it was in the family of Boleyn, of Blickling. Sir William Boleyn, ſecond ſon of ſir Jeffrey Boleyn, lord mayor of London, died poſſeſſed of it in 1505.

Thomas Greſham, eſq. purchaſed it of ſir James Boleyn, by fine, in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary. By an inquiſition taken May 9, in the 39th of Elizabeth, the lady Ann Greſham, widow of ſir Thomas, was found to have held the manor of Holkham and Burgh-hall, and Wm. Read, eſq. was her ſon and heir, by her firſt huſband, Wm. Read, eſq.

In the 21ſt of James I. the lady Mary Read, widow of ſir William Read, poſſeſſed it: which ſaid William Read had one daughter and heir, named Ann, who married to her firſt huſband ſir Michael Stanhope, knt. by whom ſhe had three daughters, Elizabeth, Jane, and Bridget. After the death of Stanhope, and before her father died, ſhe married to her ſecond huſband ſir Edward Spencer, knt. and in his name in right of his wife, a court was held for Borough-hall manor the beginning of the reign of Charles I.

After the death of the ſaid lady Ann Spencer, her three daughters by ſir Michael Stanhope were in poſſeſſion of Borough-hall manor, &c. as co-heirs of ſir William Read their grandfather, and were then married to lord Berkley, ſir William Withipol, of Ipſwich,

Ipſwich, knt. and the earl of Deſmond. And by deeds dated the 10th and 23d of Charles I. lord Berkley and Elizabeth his wife, ſir William Withipol and Jane his wife, the earl of Deſmond and Bridget his wife, ſold and conveyed the manor of Borough-hall, about three hundred and ſixty acres of land and meadows, three hundred and fifty acres of ſalt marſhes*, and two ſold-courſes, the one called Caldoe or Aſhyard fold-courſe, the other the Marſh or Borough-hall fold-courſe, with the appurtenances, to John Coke, eſq. of Holkham, from whom the ſame deſcended to the earl of Leiceſter.

It appears from court rolls, &c. that the ſucceſſive lords of Borough-hall manor, ſince the year 1505, were

Sir James Boleyn.

Sir Thomas Greſham.

Lady Greſham, his widow.

Sir William Read, her ſon by a firſt huſband.

Lady Mary Read, widow of ſir William.

Sir Edward Spencer, in right of his wife, Ann daughter of ſir William Read.

Elizabeth lady Berkley, Jane lady Withipol, and Bridget counteſs of Deſmond, grand-daughters of ſir William Read, by his daughter Ann's firſt huſband, ſir Michael Stanhope.

John Coke, who married Merial daughter of Anthony Wheatley: which Anthony died the 24th of Auguſt, the 42d of Elizabeth.—Perkins errs in ſaying,

* Theſe marſhes were imbanked and inclofed from the ſea by the ſaid John Coke, and now called the Old, or Borough Marſhes, in Holkham.

ing, it was purchaſed by William Wheatly, eſq. protonotary of the Common Pleas, who was alſo lord of Hill-hall in this town, and left it to Anthony his ſon and heir, who by Ann his wife, daughter of William Armiger, eſq. of North Creak, had three daughters and co-heirs; Muriel, the eldeſt, brought it by marriage to John Coke, eſq. fourth ſon of the famous ſir Edward Coke, lord chief juſtice of England.

William de Ken, lord of Wighton, in the reign of Richard I. and king John, poſſeſſed lands in Holkham; and his ſon William in that of Henry III. who forfeited on his rebellion: they were granted by that king to Philip de Albini, as the lands of the Normans; but in the 32d of the ſaid king, was conferred on William de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, the king's half brother, and it became united to the lordſhip abovementioned, and came to John Coke, eſq.

Henry III. granted a weekly market, on Mondays, and a fair on the feaſt of the decollation of St. John Baptiſt: here was alſo a great fiſh-market.

In 1543. William Wootton, and John Wootton, eſq. conveyed NEALS, alias LUCAS manor, to Mr. William Pepys, and Thomas Pepys, gent. died ſeiſed of in 1569, and orders it by his will to be ſold.

After the death of Thomas Pepys the ſaid manor of Neals, alias Lucas, was poſſeſſed by his daughter Thomaſine, who married Richard Seaſoul; after whoſe death the ſaid Thomaſine, widow of Richard Seaſoul, ſold the ſaid manor and eſtate of Neals, alias Lucas, to Richard Manſeur, who had poſſeſſion many years in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and

and long and vexatious law ſuits with lady Greſham, about rights of ſheep-walks in Holkham, not ended till after both of them were dead. William Armiger, of North Creak, eſq. married Catherine ſiſter and heir of the ſaid Richard Manſeur.

William Armiger, eſq. and Catherine his wife, by deed dated the 5th of October, 1610, the 7th of James I. ſold and conveyed the manor of Holkham, otherwiſe Neals, alias Lucas, in Holkham, with the appurtenances; *the rectory of Holkham and parſonage houſe, with the tithes of corn and hay, and all wainſcot, ceilings, windows, glaſs-doors, locks, ſhelves, benches, tables, fixed coppers and leads; with all field-lands, incloſures and other lands, of which three acres was planted with ſaffron; alſo the patronage of the vicarage of Holkham, to ſir Edward Coke, knt. then lord chief juſtice of the Common Pleas.

A fine was levied the 7th of James I.

By the ſame deed was aſſigned and conveyed to the ſaid ſir Edward Coke, the leaſe and manor of Peterſon† granted by Edmund Biſhop of Norwich to queen Elizabeth for eighty years, with the appurte-

 nances

* The rectory of Holkham was appropriate to the abbey of Weſt Dereham, which abbey was given to the king, by ſtatutes the 27th and 31ſt of Henry VIII. The ſaid rectory was granted by letters patent of Henry VIII. to James Boleyn, who ſold the ſame to Pepys, and with Neals, alias Lucas, came to Armiger as abovementioned, who ſold and conveyed the ſame to ſir Edward Coke as aforeſaid.

† Peterſon leaſhold was in poſſeſſion of —— Griggs, from whom Richard Manſuer purchaſed it, and from him came to Armiger as abovementioned.

rances in Peterſon, Holkham, Baſham, Creak, Burnham, and Burnham-Thorpe.

From the ſaid ſir Edward Coke all the above premiſſes came to his ſon, John Coke, of Holkham, and from him deſcended to the Earl of Leiceſter.

In the 28th of Henry VI. the prior of Walſingham had a grant of the lands in Peterſon, and priory; and ſo continued till the diſſolution, when they came to the crown.

Edward VI. in 1540. granted Peterſon priory manor, and lands in this town, &c. to the ſee of Norwich, where it remains at this time.

The great antiquary and hiſtorian, Camden, derives this family of Coke, from William Coke, of Didlington in South Greenhoe hundred, Norfolk, mentioned in a deed in 1206. who held alſo in the ſaid year, the lordſhip of South-bergh in Mitford hundred.

William had Jeffrey his ſon, reſiding at Didlington in the 36th year of Henry III. who married Margaret daughter and co-heir of Alan de Attlebridge, and left Thomas Coke, of Didlington, living in the 50th of that king, and father of Thomas, of the ſaid town, living in the 44th of Edward I. who had John Coke, of Didlington, in the 9th of Edward II.

In Collin's Hiſtory of the Peerage it is alſo ſaid, that John Coke, who was lord of Didlington in the 9th of Edward II. and father of ſir Thomas Coke, who ſerved in the wars of France, was lord of Didlington and Foulden, created a knight banneret,

neret, and in the 22d of Edward II. had a grant of one hundred pounds per annum: his ſon Thomas dying *s. p.* his inheritance deſcended to John Coke, who lived at Whitwell, 1362, brother of ſir Thomas, who had a ſon, John Coke, eſq. of Croſtwick and Eaſt Ruſton, and he a ſon, Robert Coke, eſq. of Eaſt Ruſton, who married Agnes, daughter and heir of Roger Criſpin, eſq. of Happiſburgh.

Their ſon John left Thomas Coke, eſq. who married Alice, ſiſter and co-heir of Thomas Folcard, lord of Sparham-hall, and had two ſons:

1. John, who died young.

2. Robert Coke, eſq. of Sparham, married to Ann, daughter of Thomas Wodehouſe, of Waxham in the hundred of Happing.

Robert, the ſurvivor, was a fellow of Lincoln's inn, and the firſt of the family who lived at Mileham: his only brother, Thomas, was lord of Gambon's manor in Whitwell. Robert died in London, 1561, and by Winifred, daughter of Mr. William Knightley of Norwich, left an only ſon and heir, ſir Edward Coke, that bright luminary of the law, who was born at Mileham. He was lord chief juſtice of England, &c. and died at Tittleſhall; to which place in this hiſtory the reader is referred.

Sir Edward married firſt Bridget daughter of John Paſton, eſq. by whom he had ſix ſons and three daughters, viz.

1. Edward, who died an infant.

2. Sir Robert, married to Theophila daughter of lord Berkley, and died 1653 without iſſue.

3. Arthur, married to Elizabeth daughter and sole heir of sir George Waldegrave, of Higham in Suffolk, and died without issue, 1629.

4. John, who by his marriage with Muriel daughter of Anthony Wheatley, esq. succeeded to the Holkham estate, and had six sons and nine daughters.

5. Henry, married to Margaret daughter and heir of sir Richard Lovelace, of Kingsdown in Kent.

6. Clement, married to Sarah daughter and co-heir of Alexander Reddish, esq. of Reddish in Lancashire. This Clement lived at Longford in Derbyshire, and had a son who was created baronet by Charles I. for his loyal attachment to that unfortunate prince.

Sir Edward's three daughters were

1. Elizabeth, who died young.

2. Bridget, married to William Skinner, esq.

3. Ann, married to Ralph Sadler, esq.

By his second lady, Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Cecil, earl of Salisbury, he had

1. Elizabeth, who died unmarried.

2. Frances, married to sir John Villers, viscount Purbeck, brother of the duke of Buckingham.

John, the fourth son of sir Edward Coke, lived and died at Honington in Suffolk, 1661; and his heirs male dying without issue, the estates in Norfolk, Suffolk, Derby, Cambridge and Lancashire, descended to Richard only son and heir of Henry the fifth son of sir Edward.

Richard

Richard Coke, eſq. as above, married Mary daughter of ſir John Rouſe, bart. of Henham in Suffolk, by whom he had Robert Coke, eſq. of Holkham, who married lady Ann Oſborne, daughter of the duke of Leeds, and dying left Edward his ſon and heir, married to Cary daughter of ſir John Newton, bart. of Barrow-Court in Glouceſterſhire. Edward Coke, eſq. had three ſons, viz. Thomas, Edward and Robert, and two daughters, Cary, married to ſir Marmaduke Wyvill, bart. and Ann, married to Philip Roberts, eſq. major of the ſecond troop of horſe guards, and now living in London.

Thomas, the eldeſt, married lady Margaret Tufton, third daughter and co-heir of the earl of Thanet, and baroneſs Clifford in her own right. He was elected knight of the bath, created baron Lovell, of Minſter-Lovell in Oxfordſhire, and earl of Leiceſter: he was alſo joint poſt-maſter general of England, and elected fellow of the Royal Society, &c.

Edward, the ſecond ſon, had the eſtate of Longford in Derbyſhire, and dying *s. p.* in 1733, his younger brother, Robert, inherited it.

He married lady Jane, daughter of Thomas marquis of Wharton, and ſiſter to Philip late duke of Wharton; and was vice chamberlain to queen Caroline: dying without iſſue, 1737, the Longford eſtate came to Wenman Coke Roberts, eſq. ſon of major Roberts and Ann his wife, as abovementioned.

Thomas earl of Leiceſter had an only ſon, Edward viſcount Coke, a young nobleman of moſt eminent parts, who repreſented the county of Norfolk in one parliament: he married lady Mary Campbell,

Campbell, daughter and co-heir of the great John duke of Argyle, and died, 1753, without iſſue.

On the death of lord Leiceſter, April 20. 1759, the titles became extinct, but the eſtates devolved on Wenman Coke, eſq. of Longford, member of parliament for the borough of Derby, and in 1774 elected knight of the ſhire for the county of Norfolk: he married firſt Hugone daughter of a merchant in London, by whom he had no ſurviving iſſue: his next wife was Miſs Chamberlain, an heireſs, (now his relict) a grand-daughter of the late judge Denton, whoſe eſtate in Buckinghamſhire ſhe enjoys for life by the judge's ſettlement: after her deceaſe it deſcends to her eldeſt ſon, Thomas William Coke, eſq. as tenant in tail.

Mr. Wenman Coke had by the ſame lady a younger ſon, Edward Coke, eſq. yet unmarried:—Margaret, married to ſir Henry Hunlocke, bart. of Wingerworth in Derbyſhire:—Elizabeth, married to James Dutton, eſq. eldeſt brother of Mrs. T. W. Coke, whoſe younger brothers, one has taken the ſir-name of Napier, and the other, Ralph Dutton, eſq. are both unmarried.

Mrs. T. W. Coke's three elder ſiſters are,

1. Married to Samuel Blackwell, eſq. member of parliament for Cirenceſter.

2. To Mr. Maſters, near the ſame borough.

3. To Charles Lambert, eſq. member of parliament for Kilbeggan in Ireland.

On Mr. Wenman Coke's deceaſe, April 1775, his eldeſt ſon, Thomas William Coke, eſq. ſucceeded, and was alſo choſen member in parliament for this

this county, in the room of his father, the 8th of May following.

Mr. Coke, the prefent lord of Holkham, married Jane, the fourth and youngeft daughter of James Lenox Dutton, efq. of Sherbourne in Glouceftershire, by whom he has a daughter, Jane Elizabeth, born in 1777.

The family name of Coke is of great antiquity, as we have endeavoured to fhew; and has been fpell'd Cooke or Cocke; the name given by the antient Britifh (as Parkin fays) to a river, as Cocket in Northumberland, Cocker in Cumberland, Cockefford (now Coxford) in Gallow, &c.

"The town takes its name from its fcite, lying near to fome remarkable hills, Hoe-lig-ham; and as tradition fays, was one of the country feats of Anna king of the Eaft Angles; and Withburga, his youngeft daughter, who was fainted for her piety, (of whom fee in Eaft Dercham) was born and educated here.

"It was antiently a place of confequence, and eminency for trade and fhipping. In the 4th year of Edward II. the king fent his writ to this town, Burnham, Snetterley, Blakeney, Lynn and Yarmouth, to provide fhips to be fent to Scotland, the king being then at war with the Scots; and this town with that of Burnham-Depdale, was appointed to provide one fhip in the reign of Edward III. in order, with others, to tranfport the king's army from Dublin in Ireland, to Scotland.

"But what renders this village highly remarkable in this prefent age, is the noble, ftately, fumptuous palace,

palace, erected by the late right honourable lord of it, which may be juſtly ſaid to be, in all reſpects, one of the beſt houſes (if not the beſt) in all Great Britain; and may it ſo remain a ſplendid monument of his great worth and dignity, to lateſt poſterity.

"The building of Holkham-houſe was finiſhed by Margaret counteſs dowager of Leiceſter, in the year 1764, having expended therein upwards of eleven thouſand pounds ſince lord Leiceſter's death; and the furniſhing of the houſe was compleated in the year 1766, at the additional expence of more than three thouſand pounds, by her ladyſhip.

"Influenced by a tender regard to indigent, and widowed age, in the year 1735 her ladyſhip built and endowed, and in 1763 further endowed, in this pariſh, an alms-houſe for the maintenance of three men and three women, to have ſixpence a day each, one chaldron of coals each, annually, and to have new cloaths once in two years; to be elected by the poſſeſſor of Holkham-houſe, out of ſome pariſh in which the eſtates thereto belonging lie: the building and furniſhing the ſix dwellings, and purchaſing the rents and eſtates for the ſupport and maintenance of the whole, coſt her ladyſhip about two thouſand three hundred pounds.

"In the ſpring, 1767, her ladyſhip began to repair Holkham church. All the outſide walls and ſtone window frame, were repaired throughout; the roof made ſtrong, and part of it new leaded; the inſide of the whole ſtuccoed and cieled; the floors entirely new paved; the pews and ſeats all new, and erected in a regular form; the pulpit, deſks, communion table, and rails thereto, all mahogany; a marble font, plate for the communion, linen and books



North Elevation



South Elevation

The Seat of Thomas W. Coke, Esq.r M.P.

books for all the ſervices, the old monuments reſtored, the veſtry room fitted up, and all the windows new glazed. The whole was finiſhed at Eaſter, 1768, at the ſole expence of her ladyſhip, amounting to about one thouſand pounds.

"A book of this nature, as a public record, with great propriety endeavours to eternize the memory of thoſe truly great and noble benefactors, to whom works of conſummate excellence, and public acts of piety and charity, have deſervedly given ſuperior diſtinction in the age in which they lived."*

His lordſhip's arms were per pale, gules and azure, three eaglets diſplay'd, argent, (as granted to ſir Edward Coke, the judge, by Robert Cook, clarencieux) creſt, on a chapeau, gules, turned up ermine, an oſtrich, argent, with an horſe-ſhoe in his beak, azure; ſupporters, two oſtriches, argent, gorged and collared, with a ducal coronet.

Motto, *Prudens, qui patiens.*—The quarterings of this family ſee in Tittleſhall.

A capital meſſuage in Holkham ſtaith, with lands in Holkham, and the eaſt marſh foldcourſe, was for many generations the poſſeſſions of the Newgates.

Robert Newgate had a grant from Charles I. of the ſalt-marſhes in Holkham, with a power to incloſe the ſame, for 150l. paid to the king, to be held of the manor of Eaſt Greenwich, by fealty only in free and common ſoccage, in which grant boundaries towards the ſea are deſcribed.

By

* Parkin,

By deed dated the 21ſt of October, 1659, Edmund Newgate ſold and conveyed for 3400l. all his meſſuages, lands, tenements and marſhes in Holkham, to John Coke, eſq. of Holkham, from whom the ſame deſcended to the earl of Leiceſter.

In the year 1721 and 22, the late earl of Leiceſter incloſed and embanked from the ſea about four hundred acres, part of the ſaid ſalt-marſhes, now called the New Marſhes in Holkham.

Afterwards the ſaid earl of Leiceſter determining to fix the family ſeat at Holkham, about the years 1725 and 26, after making ſeveral purchaſes of intermixed land and eſtates, he began to incloſe the pariſh of Holkham; in 1728 built a new farm-houſe, &c. upon the diſtant field-lands on the weſt ſide the pariſh, at a place called Longlands. In 1735 he built another new farm-houſe, upon the old heath on the eaſt ſide the pariſh, at a place called Brandhill, and incloſed and cultivated the heath-land: thence forward gradually proceeded with incloſing and improving the whole pariſh, dividing to himſelf, round about where he intended to build his ſeat, and incloſed with pales, a park, containing about eight hundred and forty acres of land, and therein made many plantations of woods, laid out lawns, made waters, gardens, &c. with many uſeful and ornamental buildings therein; and nearly compleated his manſion houſe begun in 1734, (upon the ſcite of the old manor houſe of Hill-hall) before his death, in 1759.

"Holkham-hall, (ſays an itinerant author) the celebrated houſe of Thomas William Coke, eſq. which can be ſeen any day of the week, except Sunday, by nobility and foreigners, but on Tueſday only by

by other people. It was built by the late earl of Leiceſter, and cannot be viewed with too much attention. The center part of this extenſive villa contains the principal or grand apartment, ſituated in the middle of four conſiderable wings, or pavilions, that are joined to it by galleries, or rectilinear corridors. Under the baſement ſtory are the cellars. Each wing has its reſpective deſtination; one is allotted to the uſes of the kitchen, and all its offices, a ſervants hall, and ſome lodging rooms: another is the chapel wing; and therein are the dairy, waſhhouſe, laundry, and ſome lodging rooms. At oppoſite angles on the weſtern quarter, are ſituated the two other wings or pavilions. One of theſe contains a complete family apartment. The other pavilion is wholly calculated to accommodate company, and called the ſtrangers wing.

"The houſe may be ſaid to conſiſt of five quadrangles, the center and the four wings; not that they are ſquares, but we uſe the term to give a general idea. Each of the two fronts thereof preſent a center and two wings. That to the ſouth, and the grand approach, is as beautiful, light, airy, and elegant a building as can be viewed. The portico is in a fine taſte, and the Corinthian pillars beautifully proportioned. This central front, in every reſpect that can be named, appears all lightneſs, elegance, and proportion: but when you advance near, you find no entrance to the houſe; there are no ſtairs up to the portico; and this circumſtance, after ſo fine an approach, and ſo long ſeeing the portico, and expecting it to be the entrance, becomes a diſappointment, and a fault in the building.

"We have ſpoken hitherto of the central front alone. The whole, including the two wings, we cannot think ſo perfect; for there appears a great want

want of unity. The feveral parts are not fo nicely connected as to form one whole. The center muſt be ſeen diſtinct, each wing the ſame; and likewiſe the ſmall parts which join the center to the wings. Theſe are all diſtinct parts, though joined together; nor is there any ſimilitude of taſte between the center and the wings; all the pieces of this front are light and elegant to a great degree: but when conſidered as the connected parts of one whole, the want of unity is ſtriking. The center is uniform, and if we may be allowed the expreſſion, elegantly magnificent. No building can deſerve theſe epithets more than this; but they cannot be applied to the whole front, becauſe the parts are not of an uniform taſte, and the wings are at beſt but light and elegant; they have nothing magnificent in them, as to the *joining parts* they are *pretty*. The north front conſiſts of one row of Venetian windows, over another of common ſaſhes in the ruſtics. This front is not ſo pleaſing as the ſouth one, but it is by far more of a piece with the wings, &c.

"After venturing theſe criticiſms upon the fronts of Holkham, common candour obliges us to acknowledge, that the inſide of the houſe, in point of contrivance, is far preferable to any other we have ever ſeen; ſo admirably adapted to the Engliſh way of living, and ſo ready to be applied to the grand, or the comfortable ſtile of life, that convenience ſeems to have had the firſt place in lord Leiceſter's mind, when he adopted the preſent plan.

"You enter what they call the great hall, but what is in reality a paſſage. It is called a cube of forty-eight feet; but eighteen very large and magnificent Ionic pillars, having their pedeſtals reſted on a marble paſſage round it, and eight or ten feet high from

from the ground, the area at bottom is but an oblong paſſage, walled in with Derbyſhire marble, and upon that wall are the pillars, fix in a line on each ſide, and ſix in front in a ſemi-circle around a flight of ſteps up to the ſaloon door. The paſſage or gallery, as it may be called, runs around theſe pillars, and both together take up ſo much room, that all ſort of proportion is loſt; to look from it into the area, it appears exactly like a bath. The ſouth front was one proof, and this hall is another, that the architect's genius was not of the magnificent or ſublime ſtamp; for in both he aimed at greatneſs: the impreſſion of the front is varied and conſequently weakened by the wings; and the want of proportion in the hall, ruins the vaſt effect which would otherwiſe attend the magnificence of ſuch pillars ſo nobly arranged: but in the elegant, the pleaſing, the agreeable, his taſte has never failed throughout the whole building. The hall is entirely of Derbyſhire marble.

"The ſaloon is forty-two feet by twenty-ſeven, a proportion much condemned, but it is by no means diſpleaſing. Some call it a gallery; and perhaps a gallery is infinite preferable to a cube, or to any proportion near a ſquare enormouſly high. One of the fineſt rooms in England, is the double cube at Wilton, which is more of a gallery than the ſaloon at Holkham, and yet no one ever entered it without being ſtruck with the juſtneſs of the proportions.

"This ſaloon is hung with crimſon ſaffoy, the pier-glaſſes ſmall, on account of the narrowneſs of the piers, each againſt a pillar of the portico, but in an elegant taſte. The rooms to the left of the ſaloon are, firſt, a drawing-room, thirty-three by twenty-two, hung with crimſon ſaffoy; the pier-

glaſſes very large, and exceedingly elegant; the agate tables beautiful beyond deſcription. From thence we entered the landſcape room, which is a dreſſing room to the ſtate bed-chamber; it is twenty-four by twenty-two, hung with crimſon damaſk. A paſſage-room leads to the anti-room to the chapel, and then into the ſtate gallery. The walls of Derbyſhire marble; the altar and all the decorations in a very fine taſte. Returning to the landſcape room, you paſs into the ſtate bed-chamber, thirty by twenty-four, which is fitted up in an elegant taſte. It is hung with French tapeſtry, except between the piers, which is by Mr. Saunders of Soho-ſquare; the colours of the whole exceedingly brilliant. The bed is a cut velvet, upon a white ſattin ground, and as it appears in common is a very handſome gilt ſettee, under a canopy of ſtate: the deſign of the bed is equal to any thing in England. The chimney-piece remarkably beautiful; pelicans in white marble. The next apartment is Mrs. Coke's, conſiſting of a bed-chamber, dreſſing-room, cloſet with books, and a ſmaller one; the bed-chamber twenty-four by twenty-two, purple damaſk. French chairs of Chiſſel-ſtreet velvet tapeſtry; the chimney-piece a baſſo relievo of white marble finely poliſhed. The dreſſing-room, twenty-eight by twenty-four, hung with blue damaſk. So much for the ſuite of rooms to the left of the hall and ſaloon.

"On the the other ſide you enter from the latter, another drawing-room, thirty-three by twenty-two, hung with a crimſon flowered velvet. The glaſſes, tables, and chimney-pieces are well worth your attention. From this room you enter the ſtatue-gallery, which is without exception the moſt beautiful room we ever beheld; the dimenſions are to the eye proportion itſelf; nothing offends the moſt criticiſing,

ticiſing. It conſiſts of a middle part, ſeventy feet by twenty-two, and at each end an octagon of twenty-two, open to the center by an arch; in one are compartments with books, and in the other ſtatues: thoſe in the principal part of the gallery ſtand in niches in the wall, along one ſide of the room, on each ſide the chimney-piece. Obſerve in particular the Diana, the figure is extremely fine, and the arms inimitably turned; the Venus in wet drapery is likewiſe exquiſite; nothing can exceed the manner in which the form of the limbs is ſeen through the cloathing. The ſlabs are very fine; the ceiling the only plain one in the houſe, the reſt being all gilt fret-work and moſaic.

"The entrance we have already mentioned from the drawing-room is into one octagon, and out of the other opens the door into the dining-room, a cube of twenty-eight feet, with a large receſs for the ſide-board, and two chimney-pieces exceedingly elegant; the one a ſow and pigs and wolf, the other a bear and bee-hive, finely done in white marble; the noſe of the ſow was broke off by a too common miſapplication of ſenſe, *feeling* inſtead of *ſeeing*. Returning into the ſtatue gallery, one octagon leads into the ſtranger's wing, and the other to the late Earl's apartment: conſiſting of, 1. The anti-room. 2. His lordſhip's dreſſing-room. 3. The library, fifty by twenty-one, and exceedingly elegant. 4. Mrs. Coke's dreſſing-room. 5. The bed-chamber. 6. A cloſet with books. The rooms are about twenty-two by twenty. The ſtrangers wing conſiſts of an anti-chamber, dreſſing-room, bed-chamber, cloſet with books, bed-chamber, dreſſing-room, bed-chamber, dreſſing-room. The fitting up of the houſe, in all particulars not mentioned, is in the moſt elegant taſte, the Venetian windows beautiful,

ornamented with magnificent pillars, and a profufion of gilding.

"But now, let us come to what of all other circumftances is in Holkham infinitely the moft ftriking, and what renders it fo particularly fuperior to all the great houfes in the kingdom, *convenience*. In the firft place with the ftate apartments. From the hall to the faloon, on each fide a drawing-room, through one of them to the ftate dreffing-room and bed-chamber: this is perfectly compleat. Through the other drawing-room to the ftatue gallery, which may be called the rendezvous room, and connects a number of apartments together, in an admirable manner; for one octagon opens into the private wing, and the other into the ftrangers on one fide, and into the dining room on the other. This dining-room is on one fide of the hall, on the other is Mrs. Coke's dreffing-room, and through that her bed-chamber and clofets. From the recefs in the dining-room opens a little door on to the ftair-cafe, which leads immediately to the offices; and it fhould be obferved, that in the center of the wings, by the center of the houfe, by the faloon door, and behind Mrs. Coke's clofet, are ftairs quite unfeen, which communicate with all the rooms, and lead down into the offices. We fay *down;* for the hall is the only room feen on the ground floor; you ftep directly from a coach into it, without any quarry of winding ftaps to wet a lady to the fkin, before fhe gets under cover. From the hall you rife to the faloon or firft floor, and there is no attic. Thus there are four general apartments, which are all diftinct from each other, with no reciprocal thoroughfares; the ftate, Mrs. Coke's, the late earl's, and the ftrangers wing. Thefe feverally open into what may be called common rooms, the hall, ftatue-gallery, and faloon,

ſaloon, and all immediately communicate with the dining-room. There may be houſes larger and more magnificent, but human genius can never contrive any thing more convenient."

The ſouth front (of which we have given a perſpective view) is regular and beautiful; and the gilding of the window frames and ſaſhes, done in the ſummer of 1777, by the preſent Mr. Coke, gives the whole a magnificent appearance; but we refer our readers to the large folio volume of Plans, Elevations, Sections and Deſcription of Holkham Houſe, publiſhed by Mr. Matthew Brettingham, ſon of the ſurveyor of the buildings for the late lord Leiceſter.

In order to give a proper idea of the plantations, park, and other objects which environ this *muſeum* of taſte and elegance, we ſhall enter Holkham pariſh by the road leading from Lynn to Wells, where the twelve ſmall clumps of trees ſurrounding the triumphal arch firſt catch your attention, and give you warning of an *approach*.

Turning into the gate on the left, the road leads you under the TRIUMPHAL ARCH. This ſtructure is in a beautiful taſte, and finiſhed in an elegant manner; it is extremely light, and the white flint ruſtics have a fine effect.

Croſſing the Burnham and Walſingham road, a narrow plantation on each ſide a broad viſto leads from hence to the obeliſk, a mile and a half; this plantation ought to be much broader, for you ſee the light through many parts of it; but it is only a ſketch of what the late earl of Leiceſter deſigned,

and not meant as compleat. At the bottom of the hill, on which the obelisk ſtands, are the two porters lodges, ſmall, but very neat ſtructures. Riſing with the hill, you approach the obeliſk, through a very fine plantation; and nothing can be attended with a better effect than the viſtos opening at once. There are eight: 1. To the ſouth front of the houſe. 2. Holkham ſtaith. 3. Town of Wells. 4. Stiſkey Hills. 5. The triumphal arch 6. Thorpe Lodge. 7. Overy Staith. 8. Holkham church.

Viſtos are by no means the taſte of the preſent age; but ſuch a genius as lord Leiceſter's, might be allowed to deviate from faſhion, in favour of beauty and propriety. Nothing can be more regular than the front of a great houſe, the approach to it ought therefore to partake of this regularity; becauſe ſtraight cuts are out of faſhion, it would be an abſurdity to take a winding courſe to the houſe door, for the ſake of catching objects aſlant, and irregularly: ſuch management is to the full as falſe a taſte, as regular cuts where the houſe is out of the queſtion. For inſtance, thoſe from the temple at Holkham, which, however, command exceedingly beautiful objects: 1. Wells church. 2. Holkham Staith. 3. The lake in the park, which is ſeen from hence through ſome ſpreading trees, in a moſt picturesque manner; a planted hill; the ſea. 4. Honcle-crondale.

From the obeliſk to the hall is half a mile, paſſing down a lawn to a ſmall piece of water which communicates with the great canal, you arrive at the houſe, which is ſituated on a gentle elevation; at the bottom of which on the north weſt ſide, at about one hundred and thirty paces diſtance, is the lake, which is of great extent, and beautiful. The

ſhore

ſhore is a very bold one, all covered with wood to a great height, and on the top ſtands the church. The plantations in general are ſketched with more taſte than any to be ſeen: in the number of acres many exceed them; but they appear to various points of view, infinitely more conſiderable than they really are. At the north entrance into the park they ſhow prodigiouſly grand; you look full upon the houſe, with a very noble back ground of wood, the obeliſk juſt above the center, with an extent of plantation on each ſide that renders the view really magnificent. Nothing can be more beautiful than that from the church; the houſe appears in the midſt of an amphitheatre of wood, the plantations riſing one above another. Another point of view which we would recommend to a traveller's notice, is the vale on the eaſt ſide of the park. The north plantation ſtretches away to the right, with vaſt magnificence, and the ſouth woods to the left, and joining in front, which is an extent of plantation that has a noble effect.

The lake, which is one thouſand and fifty-ſix yards long, and contains about twenty acres, is nearly in a lineal direction, ſkirted on each ſide with wood, and has in it one beautiful iſland. The ſtables, which ſtand at the ſouth weſt extremity of the lake, are plain and neat, but commodious and well finiſhed within. Near to theſe, on the road ſide, is the dog kennel, where a compleat pack of fox hounds, &c. are kept at an immenſe expence. The inn, offices, roads and hedges for a conſiderable diſtance, are to be thrown down, and the grounds taken into the park; which is propoſed to be extended to all the outward plantations around Holkham.

The foundation for an elegant inn is now laid, and a part of the moſt capital pinery and hot-houſe in England is erected to the weſtward of the ſtables, near which the new kitchen garden is laid out.

In a printed collection of curious plants, the faſid puff-balls are ſaid to be found near Holkham park.

Paintings, Statues, and Buſts, at HOLKHAM.

Grand apartment.

Hall, forty-ſix by ſeventy, and forty-three feet high, finiſhed with fluted alabaſter columns, of the Ionic order.

Statues in the niches of the colonade.

Antonius—Santa Suſanna—Flora, or the Empreſs Sabina——Bacchus—Venus de Belle Feſie——Julia Mammea—Faun with the Nacchare—Antique Faun—Septimus Severus——Iſis, or Prieſteſs of Iſis—Apollo.

Saloon.

Twenty-eight feet by forty, and thirty-two feet high. The hangings of this room are of crimſon ſattin, the column chimney-pieces are Sicilian marble; and over the center door is a large marble buſto of Juno.

Pictures in the ſaloon.

The continence of Scipio Africanus. *Guiſeppe Chiari.*

Over the chimney-piece, Tarquin and Lucretia. *Procochiano.*

Over the other chimney-piece, Perſeus delivering Andromeda. *Guiſeppe Chiari.*

Coriolanus

Coriolanus in the camp of the Volſci. *Pietro Cortona.*

Two female portraits over the doors. *Carlo Maratt.*

Over the other ſide doors are two half length figures. *Agoſtino Sylla.*

Drawing-room.

Thirty by twenty-two, and twenty-two feet in height. Statuary marble chimney-piece: two marble buſtos upon the cornice of the chimney-piece; one of the emperor Caracalla, the other of Marcus Aurelius.

Over the chimney is the Madona in Gloria. *P. de Pietri.*

Two large bird pieces. *Hendicooter.*

A large landſcape, *Claud Lorrain.*

A ſtorm. *Nicolo Pouſſin.*

Portrait of the duke of Aremberg on horſeback. *Vandyk.*

Joſeph and Potiphar's wife. *Carlo Cigniani.*

Four plaiſter caſts of heads over the doors, Fauſtina, Pythagoras, Zeno, and Carneades.

Above them are four landſcapes. *Horizonti.*

Veſtibule to the ſtatue gallery.

An octagon of twenty-one feet diameter, and thirty-two feet high.

Antique marble buſtos, viz. Adrian—Julia Mammea—Julia of Titus—Marcus Aurelius—Galienus—Geta.

Statue gallery.

Including its two large end niches, is in length ſixty feet, twenty-one wide, and twenty-three in height.

Statues

Statues and Busts in the gallery.

Two young fawns—A buſt of the elder Brutus—Seneca, its companion—A ſtatue of Neptune—Ditto of the God Faunus—Ditto of Meleager.

A ſtatue of the Pythian Apollo, ſtands in a nich over the chimney; a head of Sybele over that.

A ſtatue of Venus in thin drapery.

In a larger nich contiguous, ſtands the celebrated figure of Diana. The next is a figure of a Bacchus.

A buſto of Metrodorus.

In the ſmaller niches, the ſtatues of Minerva and Ceres.

A buſt of Cornelius Sylla.

Two tables of alabaſtro Peccorella.

Statues and Buſts in the tribune of the gallery.

A large ſtatue of Lucius Verus, in a Conſular habit.

A ſtatue of Juno.

Agrippina, the wife of Germanicus, in the character of Ceres.

Over the doors are two buſtos; one of the elder empreſs Fauſtina, the other of the emperor Philip.

The whole length of the gallery, including the veſtibule and tribune, is one hundred and five feet.

Great dining-room.

A ſquare of twenty-ſeven feet, excluſive of its ſideboard nich, which is nine feet by ten, in the clear of the opening.

Two chimney-pieces of a ſimilar deſign, compoſed of Sicilian jaſper trufles, and ſtatuary marble.

The ſideboard, table, frame and legs, are of porphyry; the table ſlab of Egyptian green marble; beneath

beneath a large baſon of mount Edgcumbe red granite.

Two buſtos; one of Geta, the other of Marcus Aurelius; two large heads above the chimney-pieces.

State bed-chamber apartment.

The firſt room from the ſaloon is the ſtate antichamber.

A large picture; the flight of the Virgin and Joſeph into Egypt. *Rubens.*

A naked Venus. *Titian.*

A landſcape. *Nicolo Pouſſin.*

Over the chimney, the reconciliation between Jacob and Eſau. *Pietro Cortona.*

Lot and his two daughters. *Dominichino.*

A landſcape. *Nicolo Pouſſin.*

Joſeph and his miſtreſs. *Guido.*

Over the four doors, portraits of ſir Lionel Talmarſh, and the poet Waller. *Sir Peter Lely.*

A pope. *Pomeranico.*

A Venetian lady. *Titian.*

Two marble buſtos; one is of the veſtal Virgin, the other of the younger empreſs Fauſtina.

State dreſſing-room. A cube of twenty-one feet.

A landſcape over the chimney. *Claud Lorrain.*

Above, St. John the Baptiſt preaching. *Luca Giordano.*

On each ſide of it is a landſcape. *Horizonte.*

Below them, two. *Gaſper Pouſſin.*

A landſcape, Abraham preparing to ſacrifice his ſon Iſaac, rather in a dark ſtile. *Dominichino.*

A rock, very fine. *Salvator Roſa.*

The pendents that hang on each ſide. *Lucatelli.*

A landſcape, St. John baptiſing our Saviour, *F. Bologneſe.*

A landſcape,

A landſcape, its companion. *Gaſper Pouſſin.*

A landſcape, figures and cattle. *Claude Lorrain.*

Above it, one. *Claude.*

The pendents; one a ſea piece, the other a landſcape. *Vernet.*

The pair of landſcapes below the above. *Claude Lorrain.*

The pendents below two pictures. ditto.

State bed-chamber. Twenty by thirty, and ſeventeen feet high.

Tapeſtry hangings; Europe, Africa, Aſia, and America.

The four ſeaſons over the doors. *Zuarelli.*

A flowered Genoa velvet bed of three colours.

Over the chimney, Jupiter careſſing Juno. *Gavin Hamilton.*

Medalliion of Julius Cæſar.

State bed-chamber cloſet.

Polyphemus and Galatea. *Annibal Caracci.*

Piece of macaws and parrots. *Rubens and Snyders.*

Two flower pieces over doors. *Fil. Lauri* and *M. Angelo.*

A ſmall Holy Family. *Albano.*

Two altar pieces. *Sebaſtian Conca.*

The portrait of a woman. *Leonardo da Vinci.*

A ſmall portrait, in water colours, of lord chief juſtice Coke. *Cornelius Janſens.*

Four landſcapes in water colours, viz.—A copy of his majeſty's C. Lorrain.—Ditto of a landſcape from N. Pouſſin. *Goupy.*——Ditto of a landſcape from Rubens. Ditto.—Ditto from N. Pouſſin. Ditto.

A view of Vignola's palace at Caprarola. *G. Occhiali.*

A view

A view of Rome from the banks of the Tiber. Ditto.

The marriage of Pſyche. *Ignatius.*

Continence of Scipio.

Two landſcapes. *Fillipo Lauri.*

A ſaint beſtowing the benediction. *Carlo Maratt.*

Bringing the ſick to a ſaint preaching. *Andrea Mantegna.*

Sketch of the ſalutation. *C. Maratt.*

Two landſcapes in biſter. *Claude Lorrain.*

A waterfall. *G. Pouſſin.*

Nativity of the Virgin. *Di Roſſo.*

A battle piece. *Borgognone.*

Nativity of the Virgin. *Frederico Barocci.*

Landſcape. *Salvator Roſa.*

Sketch of two figures. *P. Caravagio.*

Sketch for an altar piece. *Ciro Ferri.*

A naked woman. *Guiſeppe d'Arpino.*

Cloſet to ſtate bed-chamber.

The Madona and young Chriſt. *Raphael.*

A large landſcape. *Bartolomeo.*

Two perſpective views: the Doge's palace; the Procuratiæ Nuova, the Mint, the Jeſuits college, and the church of the Salute. *Gaſparo Occhiali.*

Over againſt it, the bridge and caſtle of St. Angelo. Ditto.

Cincinnatus at the plough. *Enigi Garzi.*

Front view of St. Peter's church. *Occhiali.*

A view of the colloſſium, and arch of Conſtantine. *G. Occhiali.*

Judith, with the head of Holofernes. *Carlo Maratt.*

A view of the rialto at Venice. *Canaletti.*

Palace Cornaro. Ditto.

A portrait of Ruben's daughter. *Rubens.*

North

North ſtate bed-chamber. A cube of twenty-one feet diameter, hung with tapeſtry.

Moſaic table ſlab.

The chimney-piece. *Fior de Perſica.*

Over the chimney, a picture of a muſician. *Mola.*

Under it are two ſmall paintings of fowls and fiſh. *Dupret.*

A whole length portrait of the earl of Leiceſter, in the robes of the order of the bath. *Richardſon.*

Dreſſing-room to the north ſtate bed-chamber. Twenty-ſeven by ſeventeen, and twenty feet high.

A whole length of Mrs. Newton, the earl's grandmother.

Newma Pompilius giving laws to Rome. *Procaccini.*

A Cupid. *Guido Reni.*

Head of an Evangeliſt. Ditto.

The adoration of the magi. *Cavalier Calabreſe.*

The Virgin Mary reading. *Carlo Maratt.*

Youth and old age, two pieces. *Lanfranc.*

Woman in a cave. *Parmegiano.*

Mary Magdalen anointing the feet of Chriſt. *P. Veroneſe.*

Apollo and Daphne. *Carlo Maratt.*

Chriſt fallen under the Croſs. *Giacomo Baſſano.*

The Virgin, young Chriſt, St. John, and Joſeph. *An old copy after Raphael.*

Fruits and flowers, a fountain and macaw. *Hondicooter.*

The deluge. *Carlandrucci.*

A landſcape. *Annibal Caracci.*

Small landſcape and figures, a repoſe. *Claude Lorrain.*

St.

St. George, Santa Saba, and the dragon. *Studio.*

Full length of lady Leiceſter, and her ſon, lord Coke. *Richardſon.*

A drapery figure of an Iſis.

Chapel. Sixty-three by eighteen, and twenty-ſeven feet high.

The aſſumption of the Virgin. *Guido Reni.*

Santa Cecilia, and St. Anne. *Cypriani.*

Abraham, Hagar, and Iſhmael. *Andrea Sacchi.*

The Angel appearing to Joſeph in a dream. *Lanfranc.*

Rebecca at the well, and the ſervant of Jacob. *B. Luti.*

Over the chimney-piece, St. Mary Magdalen and an Angel. *Carlo Maratt.*

Family Wing.

Anti-room, eighteen feet ſquare by ſixteen, the height of this floor.

On the chimney-piece, of purple and white Carrara marble, ſtands the Egyptian God Canopus.

Two heads in marble; one of Alexander, the other of Homer.

A plaiſter caſt of Cupid and Pſyche.

Above the chimney is a portrait of John Coke, eſq.

Over the door, a head unknown.

A whole length of the ducheſs of Richmond. *Kneller.*

A head of lady Anne Tufton, counteſs of Saliſbury.

A whole length of lady Anne Walpole. *Kneller.*

A whole length of lady Dover. Ditto.

Oval portrait of Mrs. Coke, mother to the earl of Leiceſter.

A whole length of Mrs. Henningham. *Kneller.*

Dreſſing-

Dreſſing-room. Twenty-four feet by eighteen.

A whole length of Edward Coke, eſq. father to the earl of Leiceſter. *Kneller.*

Mrs. Cary Newton, mother to the earl of Leiceſter, whole length. Ditto.

Oval portrait of lord Clifford over the door.

Above, is a head of Mr. Hemmingham.

Underneath, lady Mary Hemmingham, his wife.

Below, Dorothy Walpole, lady Townſhend. *Jarvis.*

Over the chimney is Catherine Tuſton, lady Sondes. *Dahl.*

Anne Tuſton, counteſs of Saliſbury. *Jarvis.*

Head of Richard Coke, eſq.

Lady Coke, wife of ſir Robert Coke.

The ducheſs of Richmond.

The duke of Leeds, and lady Caernarvon. *Kneller.*

Over the library door, the counteſs of Leiceſter.

Mrs. Price. *Sir Peter Lely.*

Library. Fifty-four feet by eighteen.

Over the chimney, a ſea piece. *Griffier.*

Mrs. Coke's dreſſing-room. Eighteen feet by Twenty-four.

Over the chimney, lady Catherine and Ann Tuſton.

Madona and St. Francis. *Cavedone.*

An altar piece. *Solimene.*

Two landſcapes over the ſide doors *Lucatelli.*

Head of Chriſt. *Frederico Barocci.*

Head of the Virgin Mary. *C. Maratt.*

The death of Lucretia. *Luca Giordane.*

Over the door a moon-light piece. *Vandermere.*

Two

Two pieces of poppies and thiſtles. *Flemiſh Maſter.*

Over the door towards the library, a ſtorm at ſea. This picture, and the four ſmall ones in the lower tier, *Livio Meus.*

Bed-chamber. Eighteen feet ſquare.

Over the chimney, a view of the palace and place of St. Mark, at Venice. *Canalietti.*

The maid of the inn. *Roſalba.*

Two pieces of fowls over the doors. *Imperiali.*

This room is hung with tapeſtry executed by Vanderbank.

Mrs. Coke's cloſet.

Over the chimney, a large coloured drawing of St. Ignatius's chapel. *Franceſco Bartoli.*

Two papal crowns and a mitre. Ditto.

Four circular drawings in red chalk. *Giacomo Frey.*

A portrait of lord Coke, in crayons. *Roſalba.*

Two girls heads. *Luti.*

Two views in water colours. *G Occhiali.*

Aſſumption of the Madona, an agate. *Rotenhamer.*

Two drawings framed and glazed. *Kent.*

Two drawings of views in circles. *Occhiali.*

An oblong ſea view. Ditto.

Two young heads. *Kent.*

A drawing, the death of Cleopatra. Ditto.

A drawing, Auguſtus and Cleopatra. *Ignatius.*

Two views of Roman buildings, Trinita de Monti, and the palace Salviati.

Over the book-caſes are two ſmall portraits in oil colours, of lord Leiceſter's father and mother.

Above the altar-piece is a ſmall painting of a Cupid drawn in a car. *Guido Reni.*

A miniature head of St. John, upon copper.

Cardinal Gualtero, a ditto, upon copper.

A head of Chriſt, and a Diana's. *Ignatius.*

Miniatures in a roſe wood caſe, painted in enamel.

Earl of Leiceſter, lord Coke, Henry Coke, his ſon.

A Madona, a Leda.

Portrait of the duke of Leeds.

Earl of Leiceſter. *Roſalba.*

Princeſs Borgheſe, in a veſtal habit. *Ignatius.*

Lady Lanſdowne, Mrs. Rouſe, Mrs. Henningham, of a lady unknown, ſir Marmaduke Wyvill, two mens heads unknown.

Strangers Wing.

In the corridor leading to it from the ſtatue gallery, is a buſt of the emperor Saloninus.

A plaiſter caſt of the little Apollo.

A ditto of the Camillus.

A ditto of the Venus de Medici.

A ditto of the Muſe Urania.

Anti-room.

Over the chimney-piece a whole length portrait of lord Coke.

Over doors, lord Leiceſter's father.

Its companion, the ſame when a lad.

Facing the entrance, Richard Coke and his wife, Mary Rouſe.

On the window ſide, is a whole length of Robert Coke.

Lady Ann Coke and her ſon, whole lengths. *Sir Godfrey Kneller.*

On

On the corridor ſide are two whole lengths, the earl and counteſs of Leiceſter. *Cavalier Caſali.*

Two door pieces, the earl of Leiceſter and his brother.

Edward, when young.

Buſto of a Roma.

Dreſſing room.

Above the chimney is a whole length ſitting figure of the earl of Leiceſter. *Trevisani.*

Over ſide doors, colonel Walpole, and lady Mary Henningham.

Lord chief juſtice Coke and his firſt wife, Mrs. Paſton. *Cavalier Caſali.*

Over a door, archbiſhop Laud.

Over the center door, ſir Thomas More.

Henry Coke, of Thorrington, fifth ſon of lord chief juſtice Coke, and Margaret Lovelace, his wife. *C. Caſali.*

Bed-chamber. Hung with tapeſtry, from deſigns of Watteau.

Over the chimney-piece, a portrait of the firſt duke of Leeds. *Vandyk.*

Dreſſing-room.

A landſcape and ruins, figure of Time. *Giſolfi.*

Deborah and Barak. *Solimene.*

A ſmall view of Naples. *G. Occhiali.*

Two pieces of ruins. *Viviani.*

Over the center door, figures and ruins. *M. A. Caravagio.*

Two views; one of Naples, the other of Nettuno. *Occhiali.*

A woman's head, copied from Guido Reni. *Kent.*

Two heads of Madonas after Raphael

Over the fide door, nymphs bathing. *F. Lauri.*

The nativity of St. Ann. *Baccicia Gala.*

The genius of the Arts fupporting the figure of Time. *Sebaſtian Conca.*

Green damaſk bed-chamber.

Portrait of an earl of Warwick. *Vandyk.*

Green damaſk dreſſing-room.

Over the chimney, a portrait of the princeſs of Orange, mother to king William. *Sir Peter Lely.*

Diana and her nymphs. *Dominichino.*

St. Jerome in the defart. *Titian.*

Galatea, a large picture. *Albano.*

Landſcape over the door. *Gaſper Pouſſin.*

Figure of a magician mounted up in the air. *Tintoret.*

Elyſian fields. *Sebaſtian Canca.*

Blue and yellow bed-chamber.

A number of Cupids ſleeping, and nymphs of Diana clipping their wings. *Albano.*

Blue ſattin dreſſing-room.

Above the center door is an original cartoon of Raphael, the Madona, young Chriſt, and St. John, in chiaro ofcuro.

Drawings in red chalk. *Juno Lanumvina.*

A man's head in black chalk. *C. Maratt.*

A landſcape in red chalk. *Dominichino.*

A chiaro ofcuro painting upon board; figures of men, ſome bathing, ſome dreſſing in a hurry, as if alarmed by the approach of an enemy. *M. Angelo Buonarotti.*

Hannibal paſſing the Alps with his army, in red chalk. *P. Cortona.*

Academy

Academy figure, in red chalk. *Andrea Sacchi.*

Ditto, of *Dominichino.*

Ditto, of *Andrea Sacchi.*

A peſtilence, in biſter. *N. Pouſſin.*

Head upon blue paper, in black chalk. *Dominichino.*

Over the chimney-glaſs, a ſmall academy figure, drawn with the pen. *Raphael.*

A head of Madona, black chalk. *Franceſco Chiari.*

Compoſition, a tomb on the fore ground. *Van Lint.*

A head, red chalk, upon blue paper. *C. Maratt.*

Eſculapius, from an antique ſtatue, red chalk.

Middle row, the firſt from the door, the Virgin embracing the croſs, in black chalk.

Crucifixion of St. Andrea, red and white chalk. *C. Ferri.*

Chriſt carrying the croſs. *Luca d'Olando.*

A ſtudy from a fox, with the pen. *Annibal Caracci.*

A battle piece. *Monſu Leander.*

Academy figure, in red chalk. *Bernini.*

A woman poſſeſſed, figures in red chalk. *School of Raphael.*

Academy figure, in black and white chalk. *Lanfranco.*

Over the door, Venus and Adonis, in red chalk. *Guercino.*

Flora's head, in red chalk. *C. Maratt.*

Man's head, in black chalk. *Corregio.*

Wiſe mens offerings, in biſter. *Pietro Perugino.*

A landſcape and figures, with the pen. *C. Lorrain.*

Soldiers breaking down a bridge, in biſter. *Parmegiano.*

The aſcenſion, in black chalk. *C. Maratt.*

Madona and young Chriſt, in red chalk. Ditto

A drapery figure, a young man ſitting. *Correggio.*

A Chriſt with the croſs. *Guiſeppe d'Arpino.*

A ſalutation. *C. Maratt.*

An emblematic ſubject, in red chalk. *Lanfranco.*

Our Saviour and his Apoſtles. *School of Raphael.*

An aſſumption of the Virgin, in biſter. *Cirro Ferri.*

Battle piece, with the pen and India ink. *Monſu Leander.*

Drawing of Joſeph and his brethren. *Pollidor Caravagio.*

Taking down from the croſs. *Guercino.*

St. Francis healing a lame man. *Andrea Sacchi.*

An apoſtle, drawn with the pen. *Titian.*

St. Paul preaching. *Carlo Maratt.*

An academy figure, pen and biſter. *Guercino.*

Flight into Egypt, pen and waſh. *Agoſtino Caracci.*

Cupid and Pſyche, a red chalk drawing.

Two Roman ſaints healing the blind. *Giovani Bevati.*

St. John baptiſing our Saviour, in biſter. *C. Maratt.*

Academy figure, red chalk. *Andrea Camaſeo.*

Cattle and countrymen. *Caſtiglione.*

Portrait of a woman, in red chalk. *Titian.*

Marriage of Joſeph and the Virgin Mary, black chalk. *A. Maſucci.*

Sketch of a female ſaint, in red chalk. *C. Maratt.*

Buſtos and ſtatues in the veſtibule under the portico, now uſed as a billiard-room.

A medallion, in marble, of Carneades.

Iſæus, the Athenian orator.

Plato.——Cicero.——Seneca.

A large figure of Jupiter.

Two

Two cinerary urns, in the form of altars.

Six plaiſter caſts in niches, viz.—Apollo of the Belvidere—Meleager of Pichini.—Ganymede of the Villa Medici.—Ptolemy.—Venus di Belle Feſſe.—Dancing Fawn.

Two large ſideboard ſlabs of Mount Edgecumbe, red granite.

In the porter's hall, or guard-room.

Buſt in plaiſter, earl of Leiceſter. *Roubiliac.*
Buſt of the empreſs Salonina.
Buſt of Lucius Lentulus.
Conſular buſt and pedeſtal.

*Audit-room.** Twenty-one feet by forty-eight.

Above the chimney-piece, medallion of a Fawn.

Buſtos in the portico of the ſteward's lodge.

Mecænas.

A caſt of the emperor Titus, in modern bronze.

Within; plaiſter buſt of the earl of Leiceſter. *Roubiliac.*

Seat upon the mount.

A ſmall antique figure of the river Nile, in white marble.

A coro marino antique; conſiſting of many figures, ſea nymphs, centaurs, and cupids, in alto relievo.

In the green-houſe.

A plaiſter caſt, taken from an original mould of the lion in the Villa Medici, aſcribed to Flammius Vacca.

* This room is ſometimes uſed as a dining-room.

In the orangery.

A fine antique Corinthian capital, in white marble; alſo two antique marble baſes of columns.

In the court between the kitchen and chapel wings.

A large fluted antique Sarcophagus, without its cover; the body of it is quite entire, and in good preſervation.

In the temple.

The little Apollo of Medici, Venus of Medici, dancing Fawn of ditto, Ptolemy of ditto, all plaiſter caſts from the antique.

The church ſtands on a hill north of the town, one mile from the ſea, and is a noted ſea-mark, commanding an extenſive proſpect on the Britiſh ocean: the hill ſeems to have been thrown up in the Saxon age, and Daniſh invaſions, and to have ſerved as a *ſpeculum* or exploratory fort; and there is another hill a little ſouth of it, called Hoe Hill, where ſeveral human bones, and pieces of iron armour have been found in digging, and was probably a large tumulus; and afterwards the place where the hundred court was held.

The church is dedicated to St. Withburga, and has a nave, north and ſouth iſle, with a chancel, all covered with lead. At the ſouth weſt corner of the ſouth iſle ſtands a ſtrong four-ſquare tower, embattled, with four bells; the lower part ſerves as a porch to the church: the north and ſouth iſles extend on each ſide of the chancel, and ſerve as buttreſſes againſt ſtorms from the ſea. The eaſt end of both theſe iſles were chapels, and are incloſed.

In

In the chapel on the ſouth ſide, againſt the eaſt wall, is a large marble monument:

To the reviving memory of William Wheateley, Eſq; and Martha Skinner his wife; and Anthony Wheateley, Eſq; and Anne Armiger his wife; and alſo of Muriel Coke, late wife of John Coke, of Holkham in the county of Norfolk, Eſq; the fourth ſon of the Right Honourable Sir Edward Coke.

On this monument are ſmall portraitures of the abovementioned perſons, and on the baſis are ſeveral children kneeling.

Againſt the ſouth wall, over an altar tomb, is a mural monument:

To the pious memory of Miles Armiger, gent. the ſon of William Armiger, deceaſed, late of North Creak, Eſq; which Miles died a Bachelor, May 10, 1639, *aged* 64 *years.*

In the chancel a grave-ſtone *In memory of John Coke, Eſq; 4th ſon of Sir Edward Coke, &c. who married Murial, daughter of Anthony Wheatley, of Hill Hall in Holkham.*

One *In memory of Muriel Legard, daughter of Charles Legard, Eſq; of Anlady in Yorkſhire, and Theophila his wife, 4th daughter of John Coke, Eſq;*

Another for *Frances, wife of Ralph Caldwell, Eſq. of Hilborow, daughter of Francis Nevil, Eſq. of Horton in Yorkſhire, who died November* 4, 1747, *aged* 40.

In the middle iſle on a ſtone—*Orate p. a'i'a. Robi. Dockyng, qui obiit* ——— 1458.

The

The church had antiently two medieties, one belonging to the king's manor, the other to that of Tovi, which coming to the crown, the patronage of both refted there, till granted with thofe lordfhips from the crown.

The Rev. Mr. Willian Langton was prefented to this vicarage by the late Wenman Coke, efq. member of parliament for the county of Norfolk, 1775.

HOUGHTON, called Houghton in the Hole, in the dale, near Walfingham, by the hills, and in old writings Hacton, from its feite by the hills; was a berwite to the king's manor of Wighton, in king Edward's time, and remained fo at the furvey.

The family of de Vallibus or Vaux, were early enfeoffed of this lordfhip, and was held in the reign of Henry II. and king Stephen, by Robert de Vaux; and fir Oliver de Vaux was lord of Hacton in the reign of Henry III. held *in capite* to the king, as lord of the hundred.

Sir John de Vaux dying in the 16th of Edward I. it came to his two daughters and co-heirs, Petronilla, and Maud, who held it by the payment of twenty fhillings to the hundred, and a quarter of wheat per ann. and had the lete, a gallows, and other royal liberties.

Narford's Manor. Petronilla married fir William de Narford, and held a moiety of it in her right, and in this family it continued till iffue male failing, on the death of fir John de Narford, in the 50th of Edward III. it defcended to his only daughter, Margery, who died poffeffed of it in 1417, leaving

leaving it, as we ſuppoſe, to the lord Cobham, and ſo paſſed as in Narford manor, in Holt.

After this William Lexham was lord, in the 31ſt of Henry VI. and one of the ſame name left it in the 15th of Henry VII. to his four daughters and co-heirs.

Ross's Manor. Maud youngeſt daughter and co-heir of ſir John de Vaux, had alſo a moiety, which by her marriage came to William lord Roſs, of Hamlake, in which family it continued, and came, after the attainder of Thomas lord Roſs, to his eldeſt daughter, Elizabeth, who married ſir Robert Manners, whoſe ſon, George lord Roſs, inherited it, and was ſold by Henry earl of Rutland, his deſcendant.

In 1551, Martin Haſtings, gent. preſented to the vicarage, but whether he was lord does not appear.

Giles Symonds, of Hildolveſton, gent. was lord of the town in the year 1571; and Henry Sidney, eſq. was lord in the 42d of Elizabeth.

In 1720, colonel Lee poſſeſſed it, and his ſon Henry Lee Warner, eſq. died lord, and his ſon Henry Lee Warner, eſq. of Walſingham, inherits it.

The church of Houghton, dedicated to St. Giles, was a rectory; on its appropriation to the priory of Horſham St. Faith's, a vicarage was ſettled. It is a ſingle building and of the ſame height with the chancel, covered with lead; and has a tower with three bells.

In

In the chancel, on the north ſide, on a mural marble monument adorned with arms, &c.

Memoriæ Sacrum
Vivit hoc marmor
Gulielmi Fenn, Generoſi.
Deo
et } *obſequentiſſimi filij,*
Eccleſiæ
Uxori ſuæ amantiſſimi mariti,
Liberis
et } *indulgentiſſimi patris,*
Pauperibus.
Qui cœlo maturus ſuam mortale exuit
5to. die Januarij An. Dni. 1702 *ætat.* 50.

In the church and chancel there are ſeveral other ſtones with inſcriptions relative to the Fenns. In the chancel are buried likewiſe under a marble ſtone, ſeveral of the name of Swallow.

The Rev. Samuel Hemington was preſented to this vicarage by the late H. Lee Warner, eſq. 1742.

QUARLES. In the book of Doomſday it is wrote Guervelei, and was then held by Turſtin, of Roger Bigot, and was a beruite belonging to the manor of North Creak.

The king's manor alſo of Wighton extended into this townſhip.

Turſtin abovementioned was enfeoffed by Roger Bigot, of North Creak manor, with this. He was anceſtor of the family of de Creak, and in the beginning of Henry III.'s reign, the tenant of Robert ſon of Ralph Quarles, held one half fee of the Creaks.

Sir

Sir John de Thorpe was lord in the 35th of Edward I. and in the 4th of Edward III. Edmund de Baconthorpe held it of Robert de Thorpe.

Sir Stephen de Hales aliened this manor, with one hundred and forty-five acres of land, &c. in Holkham and Burnham, with the rent of ten marks, to Creak abbey. At the diſſolution of that abbey, it was granted with it, the 22d of Henry VII. to Margaret counteſs of Richmond, the king's mother, and on her founding of Chriſt college, in Cambridge, was ſettled by her on that ſociety, and is held of that college, by leaſe, at this day. Here is now a farm, or manor-houſe, only remaining.

The church has been demoliſhed many years, and was in ruins in 1571.

It was anciently a rectory, and the vicarage, after its appropriation to Creak abbey, in the patronage of that convent.

After Richard Walſingham, in 1393, we find no inſtitution to this vicarage.

Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, is the preſent proprietor; and a part of his plantations, and the triumphal arch built by lord Leiceſter, is on this manor and pariſh of Quarles.

SNORING, MAGNA. William the Conqueror took poſſeſſion of this lordſhip: Godric took care of it for the king, and was ſteward of it. Thursford was a beruite to it, and was meaſured together with it. It ſtands by a little ſtream or rivulet, called probably in the Saxon age, the Nar or Snar,* as little

* Parkin.

little Snoring, in Gallow hundred, does on another, both which ſtreams are ſoon after united.

How long this lordſhip continued in the crown, does not appear; that it was in the family of de Burgolion, we find by a pleading in the 41ſt of Henry III.

Sir Robert Burgolion was lord in the 15th of Edward II. and dying then poſſeſſed of a moiety of this lordſhip, Sarah his mother held the other moiety as part of her dower; and Hugh was his ſon and heir, aged twelve years. And in the following year, on the death of Sarah his grandmother, he had the whole manor.

In 1322, the lady Joan de Burgolion preſented to the rectory of this church. Sir Ralph Shelton, of Shelton in Norfolk, was his couſin and heir, and preſented to this church as lord, in 1353, was at the battle of Creſſy, &c. and buried in the church of Shelton, in 1375. In the family of Shelton it remained till ſir Ralph ſold this lordſhip, with that of Thurſford, about the year 1611, to Thomas Richardſon, eſq. ſerjeant at law, afterwards lord chief juſtice of the King's Bench.

This ſale gave riſe to a joke or pun, that is ſaid to be made by ſir Ralph, which was, "That he could ſleep without *Snoring*."

Sir Thomas Richardſon, ſon of the lord chief juſtice, enjoyed it.

In 1695, John Ward, gent. of Hindringham, was lord, who gave it, with Thurſford-Shelton's, to Mr. Nun, of Thorpland, who held it in 1715.

The

The church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is a Rectory.

The lord Richardſon ſold the advowſon to Samuel Verdon, gent. who gave it to his half brother, the Rev. Thomas Verdon, fellow of St. John's college, and rector of this church, who ſold it to the ſaid ſociety, and there is a manor belonging to the rectory.

The church has a nave, with a ſouth iſle, and chancel covered with lead; at the weſt end is a ſquare tower, with a ſpire, covered with lead, and one bell, with a ſaint's bell, and a clock.

In the chancel, north of the communion table, lies a grey marble, with the portraitures of a knight and his lady in braſs, and in his coat armour; at his feet, a lion couchant, at her's a dog; on the upper part of the ſtone the arms of Shelton, azure, a croſs, or, impaling Burgolion, quarterly, or, and gules, in the ſecond and third quarter, three annulets, argent; alſo Shelton impaling——argent, a croſs moline, gules, Uvedale, over all a bend, ſable; at their feet, Burgolion, impaling per pale, or, and gules, a lion paſſant, argent, Plaiz; Burgolion and Shelton.

The legend round the verge—*Orate p. aïab; Radulfi Shelton, militis. et Domine Alicie uxoris ejus, filie Thome de Uvedal, militis, qui quidem Radulfus, obt.* XXV *die Apr. Ao.* M. CCC. XXIII.

Here alſo was an altar tomb, with a marble ſtone thereon, and the portraitures of ſir John Heveningham and his lady, Alice daughter of ſir Ralph Shelton;

ton; under him were three ſons, and under her two daughters, all which are reved and obliterated.

Againſt the ſouth wall, a mural monument ornamented with books, lamps, feſtoons, arms, &c.—*Hic jacet ſepultus Edwardus Fenn de Houghton, eccleſiæ Chriſti preſbiter, et aliquot annis hujuſce curatus, &c. Obt.* 21 *Feb.* 1710, *ætat.* 33.

In a ſouth window of the chancel, were Kerdeſton's arms, impaling Burgolion, Shelton impaling Barret.

In many windows about the church were the arms of ſir Ralph Shelton, impaling Uvedale, who were probably the builders of, or benefactors to the preſent church, in the reign of Henry VI,

In the window was alſo the effigies of ſir Thomas Erpingham, in armour, with his arms and creſt, a plume of oſtrich's feathers, argent, iſſuing out of a coronet, gules, with his motto, *Pincke*, or *Pinke*; and in the ſteeple window, thoſe of Elmham, Calthorpe, Uvedale, &c.

In this town there was alſo a little lordſhip called SNORING'S, held by a family of that name.

The Rev. Mr. William Stephens was preſented to this rectory, with Thurſford, (conſolidated November 1748) by the maſter and fellows of St. John's college, Cambridge, 1775.

STIFKEY, vulgarly called STUKEY. The principal lordſhip of this town was granted to Rainald ſon of Ivo, a Norman.

TURTEVILE'S

STANSTEAD HALL.

Turtevile's and Irmingland's Manors were held of the earls of Clare, to which family the lands of Rainold defcended.

A family who aſſumed their name from this village was early enfeoffed thereof. Jeffrey and Hugh de Stifkey lived in the reign of Richard I. and in the 4th year of Henry III. a fine was levied between Philip de Stifkey, &c.

In the 2d of Edward I. and in the 11th of that king, William de Hevingham, and John de Turtevile, agreed to divide this eſtate, and to preſent alternately to the rectory of the church of St. John Baptiſt in this town.

Ralph de Irmingland preſented to the ſame church, as lord, in 1327.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Thomas Turtevile and William Irmingland were lords.

Three daughters of Richard Irmingland, eſq. conveyed their right to John Winter, eſq.

The other moiety, called Turtevile's, was in ſir William Yelverton in 1458, and ſoon after it came to John Winter, eſq. of Barningham, who preſented to the church of St. John, 1491.

In the 28th of Henry VIII John Winter, gent. conveyed it to ſir William Fermour, of Eaſt Baſham, knt. and Thomas Fermour, eſq. by indenture, Nov. 4, in the 12th of Elizabeth, paſſed it to Thomas Andrews and his heirs, together with the lordſhips of Stifkey, Curlew, Eaſt-Hall, &c. in this town, with the advowſons of the churches; from

whom it was conveyed to ſir Nicholas Bacon, lord-keeper in the reign of queen Elizabeth, who gave it to his ſon, ſir Nathaniel Bacon, knight of the bath, by whoſe daughter and co-heir, Ann, (married to ſir John Townſhend, knt. of Rainham) it came into the family and ſo continues; the Right Hon. George lord viſcount Townſhend being the preſent lord and patron.

Curlew's Manor. Richard Curlew was found to hold half a fee of the earl of Glouceſter, in the reign of Henry III. Thomas de Curlew conveyed it in the 7th of Edward I. to William de Turtevile; and Robert ſon of the ſaid William, poſſeſſed it in the 13th of Edward II. and ſo became united to the manor of Turtevile.

East-Hall. Jeffrey Eſt was found, in the 8th of Edward II. at his death, to have half a fee in this town, Wells and Warham; and John Eſt was lord of it in the 4th of Henry IV. after which it was united to Turtevile's manor.

Stifkey-Hall. William the Conqueror was lord of this manor. And there was a little lordſhip belonging to this manor that extended into Wells.

Part of Stifkey was alſo a beruite to the king's manor of Aylſham.

All this was managed for the king, by earl Godwin, who was his ſteward. The king had alſo in his own hands half a carucate of land here, belonging to his manor of Wighton.

All theſe poſſeſſions abovementioned remained ſome time in the crown: the firſt that we find in poſſeſſion of them, and held them *in capite*, was William

William de Wendevale, a Norman, whoſe brother, Robert, dying *ſ. p.* they eſcheated to the crown, and were granted to the earls of Pembroke, &c.

Stiffkey Manor. The hall, or manor-houſe (now ruinous and occupied by the tenant of the farm) is the ſtately remains of a large and noble ſtructure, built by ſir Nicholas Bacon, knt. lord keeper in the reign of queen Elizabeth; whoſe arms, and date, 1604, are on the gate-way. The houſe is ſituated in the bottom of a deep and gloomy vale, ſurrounded with high and ſteep hills: a ſlow, meandering ſtream running cloſe by its ſouth front; environed with a few tall trees, which adds not a little to the melancholy appearance of the whole.

The weſt front, with two embraſured towers, is more uniform than moſt houſes, of the ſame age. The gate-way introduced you to a ſpacious area, of which the main building formed the weſt and north, and the gardens and offices, with high walls, the eaſt ſide.

The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, ſtands on the higher ground, a little north of the hall, as does the parſonage, a neat and commodious dwelling, now occupied by the rector. The preſent lord viſcount Townſhend reſided here ſome time, after his return from Ireland, where he had preſided as lord lieutenant with the greateſt reputation and dignity for many years.

The other church, now dilapidated, was dedicated to St. Mary.

William de Valentia, half brother to Henry III. and earl of Pembroke, had a grant of this united

manor, belonging to the crown, in the 32d of the ſaid king; and the advowſon of St. Mary's church in this town.

Adomare de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, his ſon, inherited it, on whoſe death, in 1323, it deſcended to David de Strathbolgi, earl of Athol in Scotland, in right of his wife; on whoſe death, in the 20th of Edward II. it came to his ſon David, who being a rebel, and in the Scots army, Edward III. granted it April 4, in his 9th year, to ſir Walter Manny, knt. who preſented as lord to the church of St. Mary, in 1349 and 1352. He held it till David, the third earl of Athol, was of age, who dying poſſeſſed of it, and of Holkham, in the 49th of Edward III. left iſſue two daughters and co-heirs; the younger, Philippa, married ſir Ralph Percy, and had this lordſhip, and that of Weſt Lexham; ſhe ſurviving ſir Ralph, re-married ſir John Halſham, of Kent, lord in her right in the 12th of Richard II.

John Halſham preſented as lord in 1413; and ſir Hugh Halſham dying lord in the 20th of Henry VI. and having no iſſue, this lordſhip came to Joan daughter and heir to his brother, (Richard Halſham) and wife of John Lewkenor, eſq. from whom it came to ſir Jeffrey Boleyn, knt. and lord mayor of London in 1457; and ſir James Boleyn preſented to St. Mary's church in 1542.

After this James Calthorpe, eſq. had an intereſt herein; but in the year 1564 John Baynard appears to be lord, who with Edmund Baynard, ſold it in the 13th of queen Elizabeth to ſir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper, and it came in marriage to ſir John Townſhend, of Rainham, and the Right Hon. George

George lord viſcount Townſhend is the preſent lord and patron.

In the north ſide of the church of Stifkey, (as Weaver ſays) lie entombed *John Calthorpe, eſq. and Alice Irmingland, his wife*, with their portraits; the monument defaced.

Alſo theſe arms—gules, on a feſs, between ſix billets, argent, three Corniſh choughs, ſable, Irmingland.—Calthorpe—Bacon—L'Eſtrange—Maſculy—Reymes—Winter——Inglois—and Barſham. On the outſide of the porch, in freeſtone, Irmingland, and Daubeny, gules, five fuſils in feſs, argent, and two martlets in chief.

Mr. Arthur Young, in his tour through the eaſt of England, obſerves that "The ride from Warham by Stifkey, is through a much more pictureſque country than is commonly met with in Norfolk; the road runs on the brow of the hill looking down on Stifkey vale. The vale, which is compoſed of meadows of the fineſt verdure, winds in a very beautiful manner from out of a thicket of woody incloſures, and retires behind a projecting hill; an humble ſtream glides through it, and adds a chearfulneſs which water can alone confer. The hills riſe in a bold manner; they are bare of wood, but that is compenſated by the thick incloſures, in which the village is ſcattered, forming with its church in a dip of the hill, and that of Blakeney above it, in a prouder ſituation, a moſt compleat and pleaſing picture."

To the weſtward of the village, on the road to Wells and Warham, is a promontory called Wayborough, or, more commonly, War-borough hill,

on which there are very visible remains of circular entrenchments, and to the east of that one mile, is a green knowl called Camping Hill, thought to have been also intrenched, but we do not find any vestige left.

These two hills look on the British ocean, and over a vast tract of salt-marsh, extending along this coast from Clay harbour to Hunstanton cliff, twenty miles, and in many places one mile wide.

The sea has thrown up a range of sand-hills, called Meals, and seems as if nature itself had pointed out the improvement of those rich lands, by forming an impenetrable barrier, which might be aided with great facility, and at moderate expence: at the same time, taking care to preserve the navigation of the rivers and creeks with wide embankments, and large reservoirs to let down as backwater to scour and keep clean the channels: but such is the prejudice of the ignorant in every part, that where *improvement* of any kind is recommended, they immediately conceive themselves interested and aggrieved, and assume a right to be consulted in matters where they have neither the expence nor advantage arising.

The Meals are covered chiefly with a benty weed called marim, and inhabited only by rabbits. They have in many places increased, and there are now large bodies of firm sand where, a few years ago, was an open beach: indeed, a very little assistance would render the whole of equal size and duration. Whins or furze might be reared to advantage.

The Rev. Mr. Arthur Bramhwayte, brother of Miles Bramhwayte, esq. of Norwich, was presented

to

to the united rectories of Stifkey St. John and St. Mary, with Morſton in Holt hundred, by lord viſcount Townſhend, Auguſt 1769, at which time they were conſolidated.

THURSFORD was a beruite to Snoring Magna at the ſurvey. It was then the king's manor, and Godric was his ſteward of it.

It ſeems to take its name from its ford, or paſs over the water, of the Thur, on which it ſtands, being wrote in Doomſday-book Turesfort.†

The family of Burgolion held this lordſhip as a member or beruite to Snoring Magna, from whom it paſſed to the Sheltons, the Richardſons, &c. and was held by Mr. Neen in 1715, as is mentioned in Snoring Magna.

The prior of Binham's manor of Berney extended into this town, which, on the diſſolution of the convent, was granted to Thomas Paſton, eſq. November 15, in the 33d of Henry VIII.

In queen Elizabeth's reign it was poſſeſſed by the Haydons, of Baconſthorpe, and afterwards by ſir Thomas Guybon, knt. deſcended from Thomas Guybon, eſq. of North Lynn. From ſir Thomas it lineally deſcended to William Guybon, eſq. at whoſe deceaſe this lordſhip was ſold by his executors to George Chad, eſq. recorder of Lynn, the preſent poſſeſſor of it; who has here a ſeat, gardens and plantations in much taſte.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and is a rectory.

* Parkin.

The Rev. Mr. William Stephens was preſented to this rectory, with Snoring Magna, (conſolidated Nov. 1748) by the maſter and fellows of St. John's college, Cambridge, 1775.

GREAT, or OLD WALSINGHAM; and LITTLE, or NEW WALSINGHAM. Theſe two pariſhes are here deſcribed together, as having been chiefly under the ſame lord, &c.

Little, or New Walſingham is a conſiderable town, with a weekly market on Friday, and a fair on Whitſun Monday. It is delightfully ſituated on the banks of a nameleſs river, which runs into the ſea below Wiſkey, ſix or ſeven miles from this. The grounds on each ſide riſing in a bold manner, gives the country here an appearance not often to be met with in this county.—The plantations of Mr. Warner, the abbey, and church with a ſmall ſpire, are fine objects, preſenting themſelves in different points of view as you approach the town, either from Wells or Fakenham.

Walſingham is diſtant from Norwich twenty-ſeven miles, Fakenham five, Holt nine, Wells five, Burnham ſix, Lynn twenty-three, Eaſt Dereham ſeventeen, and is a poſt-town, where a London mail arrives every morning except Tueſday, from whence it is forwarded, by Wells, to Burnham and to Holt.

This town, ſays a Gazetteer writer, "is famous for the ruins of a monaſtery, founded four hundred years before the diſſolution of religious houſes, which had a ſhrine of the Virgin Mary, almoſt as much frequented at one time as Thomas Becket's at Canterbury." The ſame writer obſerves, but erroneouſly, that "the ſoil here is noted for producing good

good faffron, as well as fouthern-wood." This notorious falfhood has crept into moft of the topographical defcriptions extant.

Binham Priory Manor. Peter de Valoins was lord of a part of the town of Walfingham Magna, at the furvey, by the gift of the Conqueror.

One of this lord Peter de Valoins' knights, gave, according to the practice of thofe times, two parts of the tithes of this lordfhip to the priory of Binham, founded by his lord in the reign of Henry I. which Roger lord Valoins confirmed, with other immunities.

On the general diffolution it was granted by the crown to fir Thomas Paflon, Nov. 18, in the 23d of Henry VIII. paying 9s. 7d. per ann.

The King's Manor. William I. feized on this, which was one of king Harold's lordfhips, belonging to the royal manor of Fakenham. How long it continued in the crown does not appear; it feems in the reign of king John to be forfeited by William de Brencourt, or Favercourt, on his rebellion againft that king, and was granted in his 6th year (as an efcheat, and land of the Normans) to Richard earl of Clare, of whom and his family, fee in the following lordfhip.

The Earl of Clare's Lordships. Rainald fon of Ivo, obtained two of the principal manors in thefe towns, on the conqueft: one in Great Walfingham, and the other in Walfingham Parva.

Rainald was a Norman nobleman, and attended William on his invafion; how long he poffeffed thefe

theſe lordſhips does not appear: Walter Giffard, earl of Bucks, or his ſon, ſeems to have been the next lord; whoſe ſiſter and co-heir, Rohais, married Richard Fitz Gilbert, alias de Clare, anceſtor of the earls of Hertford and Clare; whoſe deſcendents, the earls of Clare, inherited them.

Richard de Clare, earl, in the 32d of Henry III. gave theſe lordſhips to his brother, William de Clare, who had a grant of free warren in Walſingham Magna, and a weekly market on Friday, in the 30th of that king; alſo of a weekly market in Walſingham Parva on Monday, and a fair, formerly granted to the prior of Walſingham, on whoſe death it came to the aforeſaid earl.

Gilbert de Clare, earl of Glouceſter, was lord in the 19th of Edward I. and had many royal privileges. After his death it came to Lionel duke of Clarence, third ſon of Edward III. by his marriage with Elizabeth daughter and heir of William de Burgh, earl of Ulſter in Ireland, ſon and heir of John de Burgh, earl of Ulſter, by the lady Elizabeth his wife, third ſiſter and co-heir of Gilbert earl of Clare, Glouceſter, &c.

The ſaid Lionel duke of Clarence, dying in the 42d of Edward III. left Philippa, his only daughter and heir; and on her marriage with Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, he became lord in her right. On the death of Edmund, the laſt earl of March, in the 3d of Henry VI. Ann, his ſiſter and heir, being wife of Richard de Coniſby, earl of Cambridge, Richard their ſon, duke of York, was lord, and his ſon, Edward IV. inherited it.

Elizabeth,

Elizabeth, queen conſort to Henry VII. Ann, wife of Thomas Howard, earl of Surry; and Catherine, wife of William Courtney, earl of Devonſhire, were daughters and co-heirs of the ſaid king. Ann and Catherine conveyed their right to Henry VIII. and Edward VI. in his 7th year, July 1, granted them to Thomas Greſham, eſq. Queen Mary confirmed it, April 9, in her 1ſt year, with the manors of Collingham, &c. the demeſne lands in the tenure of Thomas Sidney, eſq. &c. a market, and a fair on the nativity of the Virgin Mary, and a cloſe planted with ſaffron, for which the town was famous at this time.*

Sir Thomas Greſham, in the 15th of Elizabeth, granted to Edward Mowerdew, eſq. an annuity out of it, payable for life, and ſealed it with his creſt, a graſhopper: (ſee the vane on the Royal Exchange in London, built by this ſir Thomas) on his death his lady poſſeſſed it, and it came to her ſon, ſir William Read, lord in the 16th of James I. and on his death, to his co-heirs, George lord Berkley, ſir William Withipole, the earl and counteſs of Delmond.

In 1637, it was conveyed to Dr. John Warner, biſhop of Roche ſter, a prelate famous for noble acts of charity, having in his life time beſtowed upwards of 59,000l. to benevolent purpoſes, and was a great ſufferer in the royal cauſe, during the uſurpation. On his death it deſcended to his heir, John Lee-Warner, D. D. archdeacon and prebendary of Roche ſter, ſon of Thomas Lee, of London, gent. deſcended from the family of Lee, of Lee-hall in Shropſhire, by Ann his wife, ſiſter of the biſhop, whoſe eldeſt ſon, Henry Lee-Warner, eſq. was lord in 1680, and his nephew, Henry Lee-Warner, eſq.

ſon

* Parkin

(ſon of Mr. Warner, of Kenſington, by a ſiſter of ſir James Howe, of Wiltſhire, died lord on the 13th of December 1760, and by ——, daughter of John Milles, eſq. of Nackington, near Canterbury, left Henry Lee-Warner, eſq. the preſent lord, who reſides here. This gentleman has alſo conſiderable poſſeſſions in the counties of Wilts, Somerſet, Lincoln and Kent.

After ſir Thomas Greſham's death the manors of Collingham, Fenn, &c. were ſold to Thomas Sidney, eſq. and he died ſeiſed of the abbey of Walſingham, the perpetual curacies, and diverſe lands, &c. late ſir Thomas Greſham's, in Great and Little Walſingham, Houghton in the Vale, Hindringham, Wighton and Egmore, the rectory of Houghton, and diſpoſal of the vicarage of ditto; and Henry Sidney, afterwards ſir Henry) was his ſon and heir, aged thirty years.

July 8, 1639. Robert Sidney, earl of Leiceſter, grants on condition, the manor of Roſs in Houghton, and diverſe lands, to ſir Edward Leech, Henry Engliſh, and others; and on July 20, 1650, in purſuance of a decree in chancery, the ſaid earl ſells the manor of Roſs, the rectory and vicarage, and lands in Houghton; the abbey of Walſingham, with the perpetual curacies of the three churches in Walſingham, and the rectorial and vicarial tithes, with all the lands late Thomas Sidney's, eſq. to Henry Wynn, Edward Engliſh, and others.

And on July 3, 1666, there was a bargain and ſale of the abbey, the manor of Roſs, and all the above lands and livings in Walſingham and Houghton, from Henry Wynn and others, to Dr. John Lee, archdeacon of Rocheſter, for the uſe of biſhop

Warner.

Warner. The manors of Walſingham, and mills, were ſeparated from the abbey, and remained ſo till 1736, when they were purchaſed, with divers lands, from Norbone Berkley, lord Bottetourt, by Henry Lee-Warner, eſq. who alſo purchaſed divers other lands in Walſingham and Houghton, and the manors of Gaunts and Gurneys in Houghton; and died, as before mentioned, in 1760, aged 72, and left the whole to his ſon, Henry Lee-Warner, eſq. by will, who was alſo heir at law, and has built here an agreeable ſeat, on the ſcite of the priory.

The preſent Henry Lee-Warner, eſq. ſays Mr. Parkin, intends to erect a monument in Walſingham church to the memory of his father, who died as abovementioned, and to his mother, who died in July, 1770, aged 73, and was alſo buried in a vault in this church.

Mr. Warner's grandfather and grandmother Lee, of Dane-John, near Canterbury, were buried here. She was daughter of ſir George Howe, of Berwick St. Leonard's, in Wiltſhire, and ſiſter to ſir James Howe, who deviſed his whole eſtate to Mr. Warner's father, by his will, who was alſo heir at law to him, in right of his mother, which eſtate alſo Mr. Warner now enjoys.

Biſhop Warner, and the reſt of the family, were buried at Rocheſter, where handſome monuments in that cathedral are erected to their memories.

Here were alſo in antient days ſeveral ſmaller lordſhips held of the earls of Clare.

The town gave name to the antient family of de Walſingham, from whom the great ſir Francis Walſingham

fingham, fecretary of ſtate in the reign of queen Elizabeth, is deſcended.

In the town of Old Walſingham were two churches, All Saints and St. Peter. The church of All Saints was a rectory, and was given, by deed ſans date, to the church of St. Mary, of Little Walſingham.

On the appropriation of it, in 1280, a vicarage was erected. About 1360, the vicarage was alſo united to the appropriated rectory, and became a curacy.

Thomas Sidney, eſq. of Little Walſingham, had a grant from Edward VI. of the rectories and churches of All Saints and St. Peter, and of St. Mary, lately belonging to the priory. Henry Lee-Warner, eſq. is impropriator, and nominates the curates of the churches of Great and Little Walſingham.

The church of St. Peter, of Walſingham Magna, was a rectory.

The church of St. Mary, in Walſingham Parva, was a rectory, and is now a donative, or curacy.

The church is a regular pile, with a nave, north and ſouth iſle, and a chancel, covered with lead, and has a ſquare tower, with a ſpire, five bells, and a clock.

In it hangs a braſs branch for candles, the gift of John Portington, gent. in 1679: the font is of ſtone, with imagery work, and a wooden cover; carved on it, *Ex dono Janæ Dominæ Sidney, in piæ mentis indicium.*

In

In the church are feveral grave-ſtones with braſs plates, altar tombs and mural monuments, to the memory of principal inhabitants.

On the ſouth ſide of the church, againſt the wall, is an emblematical remembrance for one Robert Anguiſh, with an arrow or dart, and a ſnake twiſted round it; on one ſide of it is *E. R.* on the other, xxxii. and under it 1590, ſetting forth the year of his death, in the reign of *Elizabeth, Rex.*

In the chancel is a curious braſs ſtand, ſupported by four lions.

On a ſtately monument, with the effigies of two perſons, "*Here lyes in hope and expectation of the joyfull and deſyred day of reſurrection, &c. Sir Henry Sidney, Kt. deſcended from the ſtemme of Viſcount Liſle, baron of Penhurſt in Kent, lord chamberlyn to the queen's majeſty, and governor of Flufhinge, &c. He died Nov.* 2, 1612, *aged* 59 *years.—Here alſo reſts the body of Dame Jane his wife, daughter of Francis Fermy, of Brightwell in Suffolk, Eſq; who died Aug.* 8, 1638, *aged* 73 *years.*"

Alſo the arms of Sidney, with his quarterings.

This lady Jane gave a cloſe of four acres to the ſupport of the miniſter or curate of this church for ever.

In this church were the arms of the earl of Clare and Glouceſter, &c. impaling Burgh earl of Ulſter, Mortimer earl of March, &c.

WALSINGHAM PRIORY. The widow lady of Ricoldie de Faverches, dwelling in Walſingham Parva, founded

founded there, in or about 1061, a chapel in honor of the Virgin Mary, in all reſpects like to the *Sancta Caſa* at Nazareth, where the Virgin was ſaluted by the angel Gabriel, on a viſion of the Virgin enjoining her thereto; a pretence generally made uſe of in like foundations. Sir Jeffrey de Faverches, her ſon, ſoon after the conqueſt endowed it, granting to Edwin his clerk or chaplain, this chapel of St. Mary, with the church of All Saints in the ſaid town, with its appurtenances in lands, &c. which the ſaid Edwin poſſeſſed the day he went to Jeruſalem.

The ſaid knight ſeems to be the firſt founder of the priory, built the priory church, and gave the chapel of our Lady, all the ground within the ſcite of the church, eight acres of land, with 20s. rent per ann. out of his manor, if the yearly value of the offerings of our Lady did not exceed five marks, which grant was confirmed by Robert de Brucourt. and Roger earl of Clare.

This foundation, and part of this town, belonged to the king's manor.

Although a minute detail of the ſeveral grants made to this once famous priory may appear tedious and unintereſting to moſt readers, yet we are inclined, in this inſtance, to deviate from our intention of avoiding every relation approximating to the dull and fatiguing maze of church hiſtory. We ſhall, however, briefly mention the donatives thrown into this religious vortex, and which ſtrongly marks the zeal, ſuperſtition and credulity of the times, ſince our welfare, not only in this, but in a future ſtate, depended on our liberality to religious inſtitutions.

William

William le Ken gave, in king John's time, a meſſuage, and thirty acres of land in Walſingham Magna and Wighton.

Damietta de Flitcham, and Emma de Beaufoe, gave lands in Flitcham, which was a cell belonging to this priory; William earl Warren, Roger de Stradſet, and Nicholas his brother, with Simon de Shouldham, lands, &c. in Martham.

In the 10th of Henry III. the prior had a grant of a market and a fair; and on the marriage of that king's ſiſter with the emperor, the prior paid five marks and had a *quietus*; and in the 35th of that king he had a confirmation of the manor of Little Walſingham, and a fair for eight days.

Roger earl of Clare confirmed the grant of All Saints church, and gave the mill; out of which ſir Jeffrey de Faverches was to pay 20s. per ann. And Gilbert earl of Clare gave eight acres, &c. of land, and the ground without the weſt gate of the yard called the Common-place.

William de Valentia, brother to Henry III. gave 40s. in Walſingham, quit of all ſervice and cuſtoms.

William de Longeſpee, earl of Saliſbury, gave lands. Roger ſon of Ralph de Sall, lands in Sall. Hubert de Briſworth the third part of the advowſon of St. Andrew's church in Burnham, and twenty-five acres of land in demeſne, with meadow and paſtures; alſo twelve acres held of him, and ſeveral homages and rents. John Marſhall ſixty acres in the wood of Foulſham, and two marks rent, with

the church of Themilthorpe: and Richard de Burgh twelve acres in Foulfham.

Reginald and Stephen de Quarles, lands there. Sir John de Narford, Richard de Witchingham, lands at Egmere. Godwin de Holkham, lands and a fold-courfe: and Ralph Hacon, of Holkham, lands there.

Sir Roger Colville, feveral homages in Wells. Bartholomew de Wighton a fold-courfe there, with lands. Nicholas Peche, the manor of Swifford in Swanninton. Walter de Grandcourt, lands and common of paſture for fifteen ſheep, four beaſts, a horſe, &c. in Fulmondiſton. Adelina Baynard her lands and rents in Bintry. Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, the church of St. Andrew of Bedingham, and that of Oulton, with forty *nummatas terræ*. William le Ventre, the church of St. Clement's of Burnham. Olivia le Marſhal, all her rents, tenements, &c. that ſhe purchaſed in Foulfham and Bintry.

Randolph earl of Cheſter and Lincoln, Hawis de Quincy his ſiſter, and John de Somery, lands in Lincolnſhire. Sir Ralph de Hemenhale conveyed his manor in North Creak, with a moiety of the advowſon of the church. Gilbert de Clare, earl of Glouceſter, gave lands to enlarge their court. Richard earl of Glouceſter lands alſo; as did ſir William de Clare, with liberty of common in both theſe towns; view of frank pledge, aſſize of bread and beer of their men, &c.

In the 21ſt of Edward I. the prior had temporalities and ſpiritualities to the value of 157l. 13s. 8d. per ann. And on June 6, in the 28th of that king,

a

a grant of free warren in this town, Holkham, Burnham, &c.

A patent was granted to them in the 2d of Edw. II. for acquiring lands and tenements to the value of 40l. per ann. and the ſaid king, at the inſtance of his queen, Iſabel, granted licence of mortmain to the value of forty marks per ann. and in part thereof, to appropriate the church of St. Peter in Walſingham Magna, the patronage of the priory being then, and long before, in the earls of Clare, &c. A licence to purchaſe Bedingham manor in Norfolk, in the 13th of Edward II.

In the 30th of Edward III. July 23, licence was given to the prior of Angleſey abbey, in Cambridgeſhire, to grant to this priory fifty-ſeven acres of land, &c. and 34s. rent in Walſingham Magna and Parva; and in the ſaid year the priory had a patent to purchaſe tenements here; and in the 40th of that king, one for tenements in Houghton, Egmere, and North Creak.

Sir Stephen de Hales, &c. aliened in the 8th of Richard II. the manors of Great and Little Ryborough, the advowſon of Ryborough Magna church, with the manor of Penſthorpe, and lands in Warham, Snoring, Weſt Baſham, &c. to found a chantry for ſir Thomas de Felton, &c.

Licence was granted in the 7th of Henry IV. to John Gourney and John Drew, parſon of Harpley, to amortize twenty acres of land in Burnham, to celebrate the obit of ſir Edmund de Reynham and Chriſtian his wife; and in the ſaid year to ſir Thomas Erpingham, &c. to ſell the manor of Swanton-Nowers, with that of Branches, in Wiveton, to this

priory, to celebrate their anniverſaries; and about the ſame time the prior is ſaid to hold the fifth part of a fee of the earl of March.

In the 3d of Henry VI. the prior had a patent for the lordſhip of Egmere, and tenements in Walſingham, Wighton, Waterden, &c. and in the 28th of that king, their temporalities in Norfolk were taxed at 78l. 18s. and their ſpiritualities at 78l. 16s. 8d.

Richard duke of York, father of Edward IV. and patron of the priory, gave ſix acres and a rood of meadow, twenty-ſix acres of land, liberty of a fold, and meſſuages called the Lion, the Hoop, and the Star, and land in New Walſingham.

It appears that the prior had a mortuary or gift, of every pariſhioner in Walſingham, of the ſecond beſt animal, and if there was but one, then of that. And in the 19th of Edward IV. in conſideration that Henry Heydon, eſq. had granted to them his lands and fold-courſe in Old Walſingham and Hindringham, they granted to him their lands, tenements, rents, &c. in Great Melton, Thurſford, Barney, Woodton, and many other towns.

In the 30th of Henry III. a fine was levied between Thorold de Briton, of Witchingham, and Aveline his wife, and the prior of Walſingham, who had a grant of twenty-four acres of land, the ſervices of ſeveral tenants, and 3s 8d. per ann.

At the diſſolution of religious houſes, this fell with the reſt, in the 30th of Henry VIII. and was then valued, according to Dugdale, at 391l. 11s. 7d. or as Speed, at 440l. 14s. 4d. per ann.

It

It was dedicated to the annunciation of the Virgin Mary; and the prior and canons were regulars of the order of St. Auguſtine.

Edwin, who was clerk or chaplain to ſir Jeffrey de Faverches, founder of the priory, was the firſt prior.

Richard Vowel, prior of Leigh, and rector of Belcham in Eſſex, was the laſt prior. He, with Edmund Warham, the ſub-prior; William Roſe, and nineteen other canons, ſubſcribed to the king's ſupremacy, September 18, 1534; and on Auguſt 4, in the 30th of Henry VIII. he, by deed inrolled in chancery, ſurrendered this priory, with the cell of Flitcham, and all their poſſeſſions, to the king.

It appears that Sir Richard Southwell was one of the chief viſitors at its diſſolution, when ſix of the canons are ſaid to have confeſſed themſelves guilty of notorious incontinency; and that great ſuperſtition and much forgery was found in their feigned, pretended relics and miracles.

Vowel, the prior, on the ſurrender had a penſion for life of 100l. per ann. and all the canons that ſigned the ſurrender with him, had certain penſions for life.

I * have ſeen a written note that ſays, in 1536, "This yer was Ralf Rogers and George Gyſborow, "the ſub-prior of Whalſyngham, with others, to "the number of 15, condemned of treſon, whereof "5 ſuffered."

* Parkin.

The priory church was a grand edifice. The length of the nave from the weſt door to the great tower, or belfry, in the church, was ſeventy paces; the breadth of the nave, (excepting the two iſles) was ſixteen paces; the great tower, or bell-tower, was a ſquare of ſixteen paces; the length of the choir was fifty paces, and the breadth ſeventeen: beſides this, there was a building, probably at the eaſt end of the choir, of ſixteen yards long and ten broad.

But the greateſt beauty and glory of this priory was the chapel of the Bleſſed Virgin, founded in honor of the Annunciation, which is ſaid to have been about eight yards long and four yards and ten inches wide.

The remains of the building of the abbey, now ſtanding, are a large portal or gate-houſe at the weſt entrance, quite entire; the eaſt window of the chapel, a very fine and richly ornamented arch, upwards of ſixty feet high, built in the reign of Henry VII. the old one being pulled down; the refectory or eating-houſe very entire, ſeventy-eight feet long, and twenty-ſeven broad; the walls twenty-ſix feet and an half high, the meaſures taken within ſide. A good weſt window, and ſtone pulpit in it; the whole building very entire, with an old very good roof upon it. †

Twelve columns, with entire Gothic arches, part of the old cloiſters, built long before the laſt chapel.

The

† Buck, in his plate of it, publiſhed in 1738, and dedicated to Henry Lee-Warner, eſq. has taken the roof off, in order to make it appear in the print *picturesque*.

WALSINGHAM PRIORY.



Engraved by I. Hinchcliff from a Drawing taken in the Camera by Mr. H. Repton.

In the Garden of

Henry Lee Warner Esq.r

To whom this Plate is humbly inscribed.

Publishd as the Act directs Novr 18.th 1779. by M. Booth, Norwich.

The length of the cloiſter, which was four-ſquare, was fifty-four paces. The length of the chapter-houſe twenty paces, the breadth ten.

The old abbey wall, near a mile in circuit, is yet very entire in moſt parts. A ſtone bath, with ſteps deſcending, and two uncovered wells, called "The wiſhing wells," are ſtill perfect. 'Tis ſaid, the devotees to the Lady of Walſingham were taught to believe, that whomſoever was permitted to drink of theſe waters, might obtain what they *then* wiſhed for, *ſans* fee.

Eraſmus acquaints us that the chapel was a ſeparate building from the priory church, and that it was not quite finiſhed in his time: in this unfiniſhed building there is, ſays he, "a ſmall chapel, all of wood, on each ſide of which is a little narrow door, where thoſe are admitted who came with their offerings and paid their devotions, and had no light but from the wax candles, the odour of which was delightful, and glittered with jewels, gold and ſilver, inſomuch, that it ſeemed to be the ſeat of the Gods."——At the altar here, was a canon reſident, who received and took care of the offerings.

So great was the fame of this idol or image of the Lady of Walſingham, that foreigners of all nations came on a pilgrimage to her, inſomuch that the number of her devotees and worſhippers, ſeemed to equal thoſe of the Lady of Loretto in Italy; and the town of Little Walſingham owed its chief ſupport and maintenance thereto.

Of the royal viſitors, Henry III. appears to have paid his devotion to her, March 24, in his 26th year; his precept enjoining all who held lands *in*

capite, to meet him on the octaves of Eaſter, at Wincheſter, on an expedition into Gaſcoign, being dated *here*, as above.

Edward I. was here on January 8, in his 9th year, as appears by a patent dated *here*, for the repair of London bridge; and again in his 25th year, on the Purification of the Virgin. Edward II. was alſo here, October 6, in his 9th year.

In the 7th of Edward II. John de Montfort, duke of Britaigne in France, came, and had the king's liberate to the treaſurer and chamberlains of the Exchequer, to deliver 6l. for the expences of his journey here, and back to London; and in the ſaid year the duke of Anjou had licence to viſit here, and the ſhrine of St. Thomas a Becket of Canterbury.

David Bruce, king of Scotland, had, in the 38th of the ſaid king, a protection to come here, with thirty horſe in his retinue; and his queen, Margaret, made a vow to viſit alſo St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Iſabel counteſs of Warwick, in 1439, bequeathed her tablet with the image of our Lady, to the church of Walſingham, which had a glaſs over it; alſo to the Lady there, her gown of alyz cloth of gold, with wide ſleeves, and a tabernacle of ſilver like in the timbre to that of our Lady of Caverſham.

Henry VII. mentions in his will, that he had ordered an image of ſilver, and gilt, to be made and offered up, and ſet before the Lady of Walſingham; and alſo a like image for St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Henry

Henry VIII. in his 2d year, ſoon after Chriſtmas, rode here; and in the ſaid year, May 14, as appears in a M. S. of payments, by the keeper of the privy ſeal, 6s. 8d. were then paid to Mr. Garneys, for the king's offering to her, and ſigned by the king's hand at Walſingham.

Queen Catherine his wife, during the king's abſence in France, in his fifth year, came and returned thanks to the Lady, for the great victory over the Scots, at Floddonfield, Sept. 9, 1513.

Sir Henry Spelman ſays, that when he was a youth it was commonly reported, that Henry VIII. walked bareſoot from the town of Baſham to the chapel of the Lady, and preſented her with a necklace of very great value, "with a view, perhaps, ſays Spelman, to moderate the reſentment of the Virgin, when he thought fit, as he did ſoon after, to baniſh her from her monaſtery, and to pull it down: for he was ſo ſenſible of her wonderful goodneſs, how ready ſhe was to remember ſmall favours, and godlike to forget great injuries, that, on his death-bed he bequeathed his ſoul to her; which, whether his executors diſpoſed of ſtrictly according to his will and teſtament, is not a point altogether certain, becauſe they fulfilled it in no other article that I know of."

Queen Catherine, in her will, deſires that five hundred maſſes ſhould be ſaid for her ſoul, and that a perſon ſhould make a pilgrimage to our Lady at Walſingham, and diſtribute two hundred nobles in charity upon the road.*

So

* Smollet's Hiſt. vol. v. page 31.

So fuperſtitious, ſo weak and credulous were the commonalty, that they believed (as they were then impoſed upon and taught) the Galaxias, or (what is called in the ſky) the Milky-Way, was appointed by Providence to point out the particular place and reſidence of the Virgin, beyond all other places, and was, on that account, generally in that age, called Walſingham-Way; and I have heard old people of this country, ſo to call and diſtinguiſh it ſome years paſt.*

Among the many miracles, &c. that were aſcribed to her, we cannot paſs by one:—On the north ſide, at which you enter the cloſe of this priory, was a very low and narrow wicket door, through which it was difficult for any one to paſs on foot, being, as an old M.S. ſays, "Not paſt an elne hye, and three quarters in bredth:" And a certain Norfolk knight, ſir Ralph Boutetourt, armed cap-a-pee, and on horſeback, being purſued by a cruel enemy, and in the greateſt danger of being taken, made full ſpeed for this gate, and invoking this Lady for his deliverance, he immediately found himſelf and his horſe within the cloſe and ſanctuary of the priory, in a ſafe aſylum, and ſo fooled his enemy. This is ſaid to have happened, 1314.

A memorial of this miracle was engraven on a plate of copper, whereon was the effigies of the knight, his horſe, &c. and nailed on the gate of the priory, and was ſeen by Eraſmus; who alſo obſerves, that there was preſerved one joint of a finger of St. Peter, as large as that of the Coloſſus at Rhodes, &c.

But

* Parkin.

But this ſo famous image of the Lady, was in the 30th of Henry VIII. brought by the lord high chamberlain Cromwell to Chelſea by London, and there publicly burnt.

The ſeal of the priory was on the one ſide, the effigies of the Virgin ſeated, and the child Jeſus in her arms; on the reverſe the front or weſt end of the priory church.

The offerings to this Lady, one year, amounted to 26ol. 12s. 4d.

The ſcite of this priory, &c. was ſold by Henry VIII. for 9el. to Thomas Sidney, gent. of Walſingham Parva: the grant is dated November 7, *ao.* 31, and he died ſeiſed of it in 1544.

This Sidney, as ſir Henry Spelman relates, was governor of the Spittal in this town, and employed by the townſmen to buy the ſcite of the priory for the uſe of the town, but obtained and kept it to himſelf. He was brother to Nicholas Sidney, anceſtor to the earls of Leiceſter.

Thomas Sidney, eſq. ſon and heir of Thomas aforeſaid, poſſeſſed it on his father's death; was cuſtomer of Lynn, and left by Barbara his wife, ſiſter of the great ſir Francis Walſingham, two ſons: Thomas, the eldeſt, married Mary daughter of ſir Robert Southwell, and dying without iſſue, ſir Henry Sidney, knt. his brother, ſucceeded, and married Jane daughter of Francis Jerny, eſq. of Brightwell in Suffolk, and having no children, gave it to Robert Sidney, earl of Leiceſter, who afterwards diſpoſed of it.

GREY

Grey Friers. In this town of Walfingham Parva, was alſo an houſe or priory of Grey Friers, or Friers Minors, or rather Carmelites, founded by the lady Elizabeth de Burgh, counteſs of Clare, who had a patent for it in the 21ſt of Edward III. by leave obtained from the pope.

The prior and convent of the canons here, petitioned that lady againſt this foundation, as their patroneſs, and exhibited ſeveral reaſons:

Firſt, that the pariſh churches would loſe ſo much *tithe* as would be within the walls of the houſe that was to be built.

Secondly, the pariſhoners would neglect the pariſh churches, go to their oratory, hear maſs, and make their offerings, &c. there.

Thirdly, that the goods of the preſent priory and canons would not keep them half a year, much leſs if any other order ſhould come into the town; and whereas this order propoſes to give caution that they will not prejudice the preſent priory; no caution can be taken, for they are to have no lands, nor goods, by virtue of their rule; or can or ought to procure any new habitation without the pope's leave, under pain of excommunication; and they have places enough already hereabouts, viz. at Burnham on one ſide, and at Snitterley (alias Blakeney) on the other ſide, &c.

In the 8th of Richard II. they had a grant for turning the way leading from North Baſham, and incloſing it, to enlarge their manſe.

In

VIEW OF WALSINGHAM PRIORY.

In the reign of Henry VI. Richard duke of York, their patron, alienedto them a meſſuage, three acres of land, a garden, four tenements, &c.

Robert Grey, of Walſingham, gave by will, in 1514, to the friers, two pair of cenſors of ſilver, of ten marks value each.

Robert Pigot, buried here 1491, gives 6s. 8d. for his burial, 6s. 8d. to pray for his ſoul, and 6s. 8d. for a breakfaſt.

The ſcite of this houſe was granted to John Eyer, eſq. February 20, in the 36th of Henry VIII. then in the tenure of Roger Townſhend and Thomas Sidney, valued at its diſſolution at 3l. per ann. and in or near to it was a lady anchoreſs in 1526, &c.

The church of this friery is ſaid to have been fifty-four paces long, and thirty-two broad; and the length and breadth of the great tower in the middle of it, ten paces.

The free-ſchool in New Walſingham is ſaid to be founded by one Bond, who ſettled 4l. per ann. on the maſter, &c. Robert Baxter, at Aylſham, by his will, dated April 2, 1572, ſeems to be a benefactor.

The bridewell was antiently a ſpittal-houſe: we find it mentioned in 1486; and in 1491, Robert Pigot, by his will, dated September 13, gives his meſſuages, called the Spittal-houſes, with the lands, &c. thereto belonging, in Walſingham and Houghton, to Robert Godfrey, of Walſingham, and others.

In

In 1675, by an account then taken of thoſe in this town who were above ſixteen years, the number is ſaid to have been five hundred and three.

This town gave title to the late lady Meloſina de Schulemburgh, created by George I. counteſs of Walſingham, April 10, 1722.

WARHAM, ſo called from its ſcite by a river, and a watry place or ham; thus Warham in Dorſetſhire, Ware in Hertfordſhire, &c.*

It was held of Gert, a younger ſon of the great earl Godwyn, brother to king Harold, ſlain with him at the battle of Haſtings; and on his death granted to Walter Giffard, created earl of Buckingham by the Conqueror.

In this town was a manor, &c. belonging to the lordſhip of Wells, held by Aldit at the ſurvey.

Warham-Hall Manor. How long Aldit enjoyed it does not appear: it is probable it came ſoon after to Walter Giffard, earl of Bucks, who dying without iſſue, Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, &c. (deſcended from Rohais ſiſter and co-heir of the ſaid Walter, who married Richard Fitz Gilbert, alias de Clare) anceſtor of the earls of Hertford and Clare, &c. inherited the ſame in the reign of Richard I.

In the 3rd of Henry III. Richard de Clare, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, granted to his brother, William de Clare, this lordſhip, with that of Wells, &c. and in the 33th of that king, the abbot of Fontenoy in Normandy, had the advowſon of the church in

* Parkin.

in exchange for Wells. He is ſaid to be poiſoned in the ſecond of the ſaid reign, and on his death, this united manor came to his brother Richard.

Gilbert earl of Clare and Glouceſter, being ſlain at Bannockiburn in Scotland, in the 7th of Edward II. his inheritance was divided between his three ſiſters and co-heirs: 1. Margaret, the wife of Piers de Graveſton, (king Edward's great favourite) re-married to Hugh de Audley, earl of Glouceſter; 2. Alianore, the wife of Hugh le Deſpencer, jun. and 3. Elizabeth, wife of John de Burgh, ſon and heir of Richard earl of Ulſter, in Ireland: and in 1328, William le Zouche, lord of Glamorgan, preſented to the church of All Saints in this town, as lord in right of Alianore his wife, late the wife of Hugh le Deſpencer, the younger: and in 1341, Hugh le Deſpencer, lord Glamorgan, preſented.

Thomas lord Deſpencer, earl of Glouceſter, dying in the 1ſt of Henry IV. left Richard, his ſon, who dying without iſſue in 1414, Iſabel, his ſiſter and heir, brought this manor and advowſon, to Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick.

Henry Beauchamp, duke of Warwick, left it to his daughter and heir Ann, who dying *s. p.* a minor, it came in the 27th of Henry VI. to her aunt and heir, Ann, the wife of Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick, ſlain at Barnet field.

His inheritance being ſettled on his two daughters, Iſabel and Ann, by parliament, Iſabel, wife of George duke of Clarence, and Ann, of Richard duke of Glouceſter, (afterwards king of England) who poſſeſſed this; and on his death, Henry VII. reſtored this lordſhip, &c. to Ann, the counteſs dowager

dowager of Warwick, who conveyed it, &c. to the faid king, from whom it defcended to Henry VIII.

It afterwards was in the Howards family, and Thomas Howard, earl of Surry, in the 2d year of James I. alienèd it to Edmund D'Oyly, efq. on April 2; from the D'Oylys it came to the Berneys, and fo to the Turners: Sir John Turner, bart. being the prefent lord.

North-Hall Manor. This part of the town, and part of Wells belonged to the king's manor of Wighton.

The king had alfo in Watham lands, &c. belonging to his manor of Holt.

This lordfhip Henry I. granted to Robert fon of Emifius, whofe fon Eudo held it, and Robert, Eudo's fon, rebelling againft king John, he, by letters patent dated September 15. in his 10th year, gave it to Jeffrey Fitz-Piers, earl of Effex, with lands in Wells and Maffingham, &c. forfeited by the ftatute *De terris Ter-tenentorum*, whofe fons Jeffrey and William de Magnavile, both earls of Effex, by his firft wife, inherited and held it of the honour of Glouceffer.

On their demifes *s. p.* it came to John Fitz-John, defcended by a fecond wife from the aforefaid Jeffrey Fitz-Peter, who held it in the 4th of Edward I.

Richard Fitz-John enjoyed on his brother's death, being a baron of the realm, and granted it in the 6th of Edward I. to fir Thomas de Weyland, and his eftate being confifcated, &c. it came to the crown,

crown, and remained till Edward II. gave it to ſir Walter de Norwich in fee-farm, by deed, dated at Windſor, November 22, *A°.* 11.

On the death of ſir John, it deſcended to Catherine Brews, a nun, at Dartford, in Kent, who held it in the 1ſt of Richard II. and by her truſtees it ſeems to have been conveyed ſome years after to ſir Robert Knowles, William Calthorpe, jun. &c. who held it in the 3d of Henry IV.

Thomas Stede, by his will dated December 20, 1501, bequeaths to Thomas his ſon and heir, the manor of North-hall, and William, his brother, died lord, in 1540, and was buried, as was his father, Thomas, at Warham.

The D'Oylys ſeem to inherit it from the Stedes, and quarter their arms, argent, a lion rampant, azure, and ſo is now united to the other manors of the D'Oylys.*

The biſhop of Norwich's lordſhip of Hindringham extended into this town at the ſurvey.

Alan earl of Richmond had alſo a lordſhip in this town.

At the ſurvey, Odo biſhop of Baieux, in France, the Conqueror's half brother, had two ſocmen, with half a carucate of land: this, on Odo's rebellion againſt William II. came probably to the aforeſaid Alan earl of Richmond.

* See the Baronetage of England.

HALES' MANOR. Ribald, who held this manor under Alan earl of Richmond, was his brother, and lord of Midlcham in Yorkſhire.

In the 18th of king John, Robert Nugun conveyed to Bartholomew de Wighton, the advowſon of the church of St. Mary Magdalen in this town; and in the 24th of Henry III. Bartholomew ſold lands here to William de Boton and Agnes his wife, and was then patron of the aforeſaid church.

In the reign of Richard II. ſir Stephen de Hales held it, who dying *s. p.* Elizabeth, daughter and heir of his brother Thomas Hales, brought it by marriage to William Rokewode, ſen. and ſo to William Rokewode, eſq. his ſon, by whoſe daughter and coheir Agnes, it came to ſir Nicholas Appleyard, whoſe deſcendant John Appleyard, eſq. in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, paſſed this manor of Warham-Hales, &c. with a fold courſe in this town, Wells, &c. and the advowſon of the church of Warham, to Ralph Symonds, eſq.

After this it was in the D'Oylys of Shottiſham, and Henry D'Oyly, eſq. died lord in 1597, and Edmund D'Oyly, eſq. died poſſeſſed of the manor of Warham-Hales, Warham North-Hall, and Warham manors, in 1610.

Sir William D'Oyly, bart. was lord in the reign of Charles II. and alienated this with much of his patrimony.

Richard Berney, eſq. poſſeſſed it in the reign of William III. and by a decree in chancery in 1709, it was ordered to be ſold, and was purchaſed by Sir Charles Turner.

Sir

Sir Charles was deſcended from Charles Turner, gent. of Whiſſonſet, in Launditch hundred, who had by Elizabeth, his wife, two ſons. 1. Sir John Turner, of Lynn; 2. William Turner, eſq. of North Elmham. Sir John died *s. p.* and William marrying Ann, daughter of John Spooner, of North Elmham, was father of ſir Charles Turner, bart. of Warham aforeſaid.

Sir Charles married firſt, Ann, daughter of Robert Walpole, eſq. of Houghton, in Norfolk, (ſiſter of Robert, earl of Orford) and was created a baronet April 27, 1727, by George I. His ſecond wife was Mary, daughter of ſir William Blois, of Grundeſburgh in Suffolk, relict of ſir Nevil Catlyn, of Kirby-Cane in Norfolk: he was member of parliament for Lynn, and a teller of the exchequer, and on November 22, 1738, dying without heir male, was ſucceeded in eſtate by his brother, Sir John Turner, bart. collector of Lynn, who died 1739, and by his wife, daughter of —— Allen, of London, left ſir John Turner, bart. his ſon, the preſent lord of this town, and late member of parliament for Lynn. Sir John ſerved the office of mayor twice, and repreſented this antient borough many years, with the ſtricteſt attention to the intereſts of the trade and proſperity of the nation: And, conſidered as a magiſtrate and man of buſineſs, was certainly one of the moſt uſeful members of the Houſe of Commons.

He married Miſs Neal, daughter of Robert Neal, eſq. formerly member of parliament for Wootton Baſſett, in Wiltſhire, by whom he has two daughters, one, lady of ſir M. B. Folkes, bart. of Hillington, and the elder, married to Robert Hales, eſq. collector of the cuſtoms at Lynn.

"Warham," fays Mr. Arthur Young, "the ſeat of ſir John Turner, the ſituation of which is the moſt beautiful in Norfolk, and as much worth viewing as half the houſes to which travellers are ſo eager to run. The houſe ſtands on the brow of a gently riſing hill, backed to the north with very fine plantations of fifty years growth. They have ſomewhat the appearance of a creſcent form, ſheltering from the north, eaſt, and weſt, and opening to the ſouth, down over a beautiful winding vale, and then commanding a rich varied proſpect of diſtant incloſures. Some villages and churches, ſcattered about the view, and a large, though regular, water in the valley, all tend to make it chearful, while the thick woods which crown the tops of ſeveral hills, and the groves that ſink into the vale, throw a picturesque beauty over the ſcene, that cannot fail to ſtrike the ſpectator."

The plantations, which extend to Holkham park, and the other uſeful and ornamental improvements made by ſir John, do him much honor; whether conſidered as a general benefit to the country, or locally as a proof of his taſte and judgment.

To the ſouth of the town, and near the river are the remains of a large Daniſh camp of three intrenchments, more perfect than any other in the county; but this may be attributed chiefly, to its having been for many years in the poſſeſſion of a gentleman whoſe veneration for antiquity preſerves it from the ravage of an ignorant tenant, who would either level it by the plow, or rob it of materials to mend roads, &c. to avoid which he has taken it into his own hands. The form of the works are circular, and conſiſt of an inner and outer circumvallation,

vallation, with ditches intervening. The ramparts are thirty feet high, and the principal entrance ſeems to have been from the eaſt. The whole comprehends nine acres, and the lands about it are called "The Burroughs;" but what is the moſt indiſputable evidence of its origin and uſe, is, that the low grounds which were formerly a moraſs in front of the camp are ſtill called, by the people, and in old writings, "Sweno Meadow," from Swain, the noble Dane.

The windmill ſouth of this, in Wighton pariſh, ſtands on the corner of a ſimilar entrenchment, much defaced; and oppoſite to it, where Crabs-caſtle, a farm-houſe, now ſtands, was another of the ſame form and extent.

Here were three churches—All Saints—St. Mary—and St. Mary Magdalen. All Saints is a rectory, and is in the patronage of the king. The church of St. Mary Magdalen is alſo a rectory, and conſolidated with that of St. Mary the Virgin, November 12, 1730.

The Rev. James Robinſon, rector of Wells, was preſented to the rectory of Warham All Saints, 1762, by the crown.

The Rev. Robert Goodwyn was preſented to the rectory of St. Mary Magdalen, with St. Mary the Virgin, 1749, by Sir John Turner, bart.

In this town was alſo a chapel, with its cemitary, or yard, which before the diſſolution belonged to the nunnery of Bradholme, and being ruinous was granted June 11, in the 5th of Elizabeth, to Cecilia Pykerell, of Norwich, widow, which ſhe,

the day following, conveyed to Nicholas Mynne, of Baſham, eſq.

WELLS, called in the grand ſurvey, Guella, as ſeated on a rivulet, near the great Britiſh ocean: Guy, Qui and Wy, are Britiſh words, and many rivers which bear theſe names.* The Conqueror gave the principal lordſhip here to Aldit, and it was the only one that he poſſeſſed in this county: it extended into Warham.

STAFFORD'S MANOR. How long Aldit poſſeſſed it does not appear; after him the Giffards, earls of Bucks, were lords of it, from whom it came to the earls of Clare, with Warham-hall manor.

In the 14th of Edward I. Gilbert de Clare, earl of Glouceſter, &c. claimed wreck of ſea, and it was found, that if a ſhip was in danger of a wreck, none of the men of Wells, Holkham, &c. dared to help, for fear of the earl of Glouceſter's bailiff; that if the ſhip was broke, and all the men drowned, the earl had all the goods, but if a dog was left alive, then only a moiety; and that the earl had a court in North Greenhoe hundred, in which if any one was injured, it was difficult to have any remedy.

On the death of Gilbert de Clare, in the 7th of Edward II. his eſtate being divided between his three ſiſters and co-heirs, this lordſhip came to Margaret, who married firſt, Piers de Gaveſton, (the king's great favourite) and after, Hugh de Audley, who in her right was lord of this town, and earl of Glouceſter; and on his death, in the 21ſt of Edw. III. it deſcended to his only daughter, Margaret, wife of Ralph lord Stafford.

In

* Parkin.

In this family it continued till the attainder of Edward Stafford, duke of Bucks, who was beheaded May 13, 1521; and on July 12, in the 14th of Henry VIII. it was granted to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and ſo remained in that family till the attainder and death of the duke of Norfolk, in 1572.

James I. in the beginning of his reign, gave it to Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, and in 1626, Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel and Surry, was lord.

In the 13th of Charles II. John Dix, alias Ramſey, of Wickmere in Norfolk, heir to his uncle, John Dix, deceaſed, (a truſtee for Thomas, late earl of Arundel) being ſeiſed of it, for the payment of that earl's debts, granted and releaſed it to ſir William Playters, of Satterley in Suffolk, bart. and ſir Richard Onſlow, of Weſt Clendon in Surry, knt.

After this, it was poſſeſſed by Thomas lord Aſtley, and by him ſold to admiral ſir Cloudeſley Shovell, and ſo paſſed to ſir Charles Turner, bart. whoſe nephew, ſir John Turner, is the preſent lord.

NORMAN's MANOR. This part of the town was a beruite to the Conqueror's lordſhip of Wighton, and ſeems to have remained in the crown till Henry I. who granted it to Robert ſon of Erniſius; and being afterwards forfeited to the crown, was granted to Jeffrey Fitz Piers, earl of Eſſex, with North-hall manor in Warham.

In the 36th of Henry VIII. Ralph Symonds died poſſeſſed of it. From the Symonds's it came to Edward Clerk, gent. and after to Mr. Curtis, merchant, of Wells.

At the ſurvey the Conqueror had alſo a lordſhip of which Godric was his bailiff, or ſteward.

This fee ſeems to have been in the earls of Clare, and ſo united to the capital manor of Stafford.

Alan earl of Richmond had alſo a lordſhip here and in Warham.

Roger lord Valoins, ſon of Peter, who founded the priory of Binham, gave to that priory all the lands of his fee here; as did many other proprietors of lands in this pariſh, all which at the diſſolution, were granted, Nov. 15, in the 33d of Henry VIII. to ſir Thomas Paſton.

In the reign of James I. it was in the hands of Edmund D'Oyly, of Shottiſham, eſq. and ſir Cloudeſley Shovell had it about 1700; afterwards ſir Charles Turner, bart. and now ſir John Turner, of Warham.

The church, which is a rectory, dedicated to All Saints, is a regular pile, built of flint and other ſtone, as moſt churches are in Norfolk; conſiſting of a nave, north and ſouth iſle, with a chancel, covered with lead, and a four-ſquare tower, with ſix bells.

Over the ſouth door in the church, the hiſtory of the flood is painted, and over the north door that of Jonas.

On a grave-ſtone near the communion table, is the portraiture of a prieſt, in braſs: On two labels —*Jeſu mercy*;—*Lady help*;—and *Orate p. aïa. Thome*

me Bradley qui quondam fuit rector eccl'ie de Wellys, et qui fuit p'bendarius eccl'ie de Pleſſy, Oct. 5, 1499.

Over the veſtry door, on the north wall, a little tablet of marble, with the arms of Murray, azure, three mullets, argent, in a double treſſure of Scotland—*Lector, hoc eſt monumentum Kentigerni Moravi, theolog. philoſoph. aſtronom. ingenio felici et exculto, et vita integerrima; qui inter Scotos oriundus, antiqua Moravorum familia liberalium artium cognitione animum Andreopoli in Leonardino collegio induit, et ibidem p. undecem annos philoſophiæ profeſſione nobilibus undiq; juvenibus frequentata optimam bonæ mentis culturam auxit et probavit, omnibus. Exinde in Angliam commigrans, alieno ſolo degens, indigena eſt habitus, nam hic annor. triginta duor. ſacro defunctus miniſterio, paſtor gregis amantiſſimus, eiq; ſuo merito chariſſimus myſta, ſymmyſtis conjunctiſſimus; deſideratus obt. moriens collegio Leonardino lectiſſimis multis inſtructam libris ſuam legavit bibliothecam, noſtrorum pauperum inopiam redditu ſubievavit, annus, et ſucceſſoram ſuor. commodis manifice proſperit.*

In the eaſt window were the arms of lord Stafford, or, a chevron, gules, impaling thoſe of Thomas of Woodſtock, duke of Glouceſter; alſo Stafford and Nevill—and argent, three lioncells paſſant, in pale.

On a grave-ſtone erected in the church yard to the memory of William Wells, *obit Aug.* 2, 1744.

Though winds *and* waves *have* toſt *me to and fro,*
By God's decree I harbour *here below;*
Where I do ride *with many of our* fleet,
Ready to ſail *our* Admiral *Chriſt to meet.*

There

There is a braſs eagle, for the Bible, and to read the leſſons: alſo a gallery and pews handſomely fitted up.

The Rev. Mr. James Robinſon was preſented to this rectory by his father, Mr. James Robinſon, in 1755, who afterwards conveyed the patronage to a gentleman at Briſtol.

The town of Wells is ſituated on a riſing ground, at the upper end of a ſpacious harbour, which runs through the ſalt-marſhes into the Britiſh ocean, one mile below the town.

The improvement of this harbour is likely to become a ſubject of litigation, between the lord of the manor and merchants trading to and from the port; we ſhall, therefore, only remark, that the buſineſs done here is very great, eſpecially in corn and malt exported from this town.

The import of coals from Newcaſtle and Sunderland, here and at Blakeney, ſupply moſt of the northern hundreds in Norfolk, and are conveyed by land carriage as far up the country as Eaſt Dereham, and the average price is from twenty-three to twenty-ſeven ſhillings per chaldron at the quay. The harbour is extremely difficult of acceſs, and a north, or north-eaſt wind, often proves fatal to the ſhipping off its mouth: beſides, as there is no current to carry off the ſilt which every tide brings up and leaves in the creek, but a reſervoir kept in the marſhes, as a back water to ſcour the channel, the haven and navigation is in a precarious ſtate. The importation of wine and merchandiſe is alſo very conſiderable.

Wells

Wells has no weekly market, or fair. It is diſtant from Norwich thirty-one miles, Holt twelve, Walſingham five, Fakenham ten, Burnham ſix, Lynn twenty-ſix. Nothing elſe worth notice occurs, excepting a ſingular inſtance of female proweſs.—"Elizabeth Clayton, near forty years of age, from an early propenſity towards maſculine employments, has continued to dreſs and work in the capacity of a ſhip-carpenter for many years. She drinks, ſwears, chews tobacco, and keeps company only with the workmen. She is a ſtrong and healthy perſon, and will employ her tongue, or fiſt, as much to the danger of an opponent as the boldeſt man. She earns nine ſhillings per week, and, as yet, has not been prevailed on to enter into the matrimonial ſtate." The gentleman who gave us this anecdote ſaw her, Dec. 10, 1778.

The great booterd plant has been found near Wells.

WIGHTON. It appears from Doomſday-book, that the royalty of this lordſhip was then in the crown, and had been poſſeſſed by Edward the Confeſſor, in whoſe time it extended into ſeveral towns.

Henry II. as lord and patron, gave this church (by the name of Witchtune) to the cathedral church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, for the health of his own ſoul, his father Geffrey's, and his mother Maud's, and his grandfather's Henry I. &c.

Soon after this William de Kaion, or Ken, had a grant of this lordſhip, to be held of the crown by one fee: this William gave to the ſaid church of Norwich, all the right and juriſdiction, which he had

had in the lands belonging to them, as lord of North Greenhoe hundred, and this town.

In the 29th of Henry III. Philip de Albiny was lord, on a grant from that king, being forfeited by Ken, who is ſtiled the Norman, and a rebel.

In the 1ſt of Edward I. it was found that William de Ken had ſold conſiderable part of the demeans, and in his 15th year, Joan de Bernake, widow of Jeffrey de Lyſignan, had an intereſt herein, and held the ſame as guardian to her ſon Jeffrey, who, in the 1ſt of Edward II. had enfeoffed Richard de Walſingham of 200 acres of land, &c. in this manor.

Drogo de Merlaw, nephew and heir to Jeffrey, gave 100l. relief for theſe, and the manor of Paunton, in Lincolnſhire, &c. on whoſe death in the 11th of Edward II. they came to his two daughters and co-heirs; Joan, the wife of Ralph, earl of Ewe and Guyſnes, in France, and Margaret a minor.

Robert, earl of Ewe, and conſtable of France, who held this lordſhip with the hundred, taking part with Philip de Valois king of France, forfeited them, and being taken priſoner in the 19th of Edward III. at Caen, in Normandy, paid eighty thouſand florins for his ranſom.

In the following year, Philippa, queen of England, enjoyed them, as did ſir Robert Knowles in the 45th of that king; and in the next year they were granted to John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter, with the manor of Fakenham, on June 25, and ſo became part of the dutchy of Lancaſter, and lodged in the crown.

In

In the 6th year of Charles I. Wighton was purchaſed by the city of London, for 1262l. 14s. 3d. the fee-farm rent to the crown being 45l. 1s. 11d. per ann. and the truſtees for the city ſold it to Humphrey Bedingfield, eſq. whoſe grandſon, Chriſtopher Bedingfield, eſq. counſellor at law, died ſeiſed in 1750, leaving three daughters and co-heirs, and conveyed by them to the late earl of Leiceſter. Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, is the preſent lord and patron.

The ancient family of the Geggs had a conſiderable eſtate here, which came by marriage, to the Bedingfields.

The hall, ſeat of the late Chriſtopher Bedingfield, eſq. is a good manſion on the ſummit near the church, with a plantation of full-grown trees to the north. On the gateway is a dial, *Redeeme your Time*, 1651. Much of this pariſh belongs to ſir John Turner, of Warham, and the moſt beautiful view of his houſe and improvements adjoining, are from a road croſſing the north end of the village of Wighton.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a large regular building, with a north and ſouth iſle, covered with lead, and a chancel, with a ſquare tower, and four bells; was antiently a rectory in the gift of the crown.

The priories of Walſingham, Caſtleacre and Binham had lands here and tithes.

In the north iſle is an altar tomb, of black and white marble, with the arms, quarterly, of Bacon, gules, on a chief, argent, two mullets, ſable, in the firſt

THE

HISTORY

OF

NORFOLK.

Hundred of SOUTH GREENHOE.

THIS hundred is bounded on the south by the Wiffey, or Stoke river, which separates it from the hundred of Grimshoe; on the west by a rivulet that rises at Shingham and empties itself into the Wiffey a little above Stoke, from the hundred of Clackclose; on the north it joins to the hundreds of Freebridge Lynn and Launditch; and on the east, to those of Mitford and Weyland.

It is an hundred of a very large extent, and takes its name of Greenhoe from the green hills, or tu-

mell,* lying by the London road to Swaffham, on the heath between Cockley Cley and North Pickenham. It is for the moſt part an open champaign country, and famous for the number and found feed of ſheep, and is called South in reſpect to another hundred of the ſame name that lies in the north part of this county.

It was at the conqueſt the demeſnes of the kings of England, and the king had then fourteen letes in it: from the crown it came to the Albinis, earls of Arundel, who alſo held the hundred of Launditch.

In the 23d of Edward I. Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, gave and granted to John ſon of John lord L'Eſtrange, of Litcham, all the lands which his father had and held of his fee, with the hundreds of South Greenhoe and Launditch, to be held by the ſaid John and Clementia his wife; and in the 21ſt of Richard II. this hundred, with that of Launditch, was granted by that king to his uncle John duke of Lancaſter; and in the next year, they were granted to Edmund of Langley, duke of York, with the manors of Mileham and Beeſton, late part of the poſſeſſions of Richard earl of Arundel, attainted: but on the acceſſion of Henry IV. to the crown, Thomas, ſon of the ſaid Richard earl of Arundel, was reſtored in blood, and to his poſſeſſions, and on the 1ſt of September, in the 7th of Henry IV. the ſaid Thomas earl of Arundel, by his deed dated at Arundel, gave and granted to Thomas archbiſhop of Canterbury, his uncle, ſir Thomas Camoys, ſir John Bohun, ſir John Wiltſhire, &c. the

* Here very antiently, even to the laſt century, on theſe hills the hundred court was kept, as appears from its old rolls.

the hundreds of South Greenhoe and Launditch, and they being feifed of the fame, granted them to Beatrice countefs of Arundel, wife of the faid Thomas, for life: and the faid fir John Bohun, fir John Wiltfhire, &c. in the 3d of Henry VI. gave the faid hundreds to Henry earl of Northumberland, fir Ralph Cromwell, lord Cromwell, and John lord Scroop, to hold the fame after the deceafe of the aforefaid Beatrice, to them and their heirs; and the faid Beatrice dying, the aforefaid Henry earl of Northumberland, Ralph lord Cromwell, &c. granted the faid hundreds in the 33d of Henry VI. to fir Thomas Tuddenham, knt. and his heirs, to have and to hold the fame; by virtue of which grant the faid fir Thomas was feifed, and took the profits of the fame during his life, and on his death, in 1461, Margaret Bedingfield, widow of Thomas Bedingfield, efq. fifter and heir to the faid fir Thomas Tuddenham, was lady of this hundred of South Greenhoe, and from her it defcended to her grandfon. fir Edmund Bedingfield, knight of the Bath, and fir Richard Bedingfield, efq. of Oxburgh, is the prefent lord.

This whole hundred is in the liberty of his grace the duke of Norfolk.

The number of votes in this hundred, polled at the great contefted election for knights of the fhire, March 23, 1768, between fir Armine Wodehoufe, bart. Thomas de Grey, efq. fir Edward Aftley, bart. and Wenman Coke, efq. were as follows:

	W.	deG.	A.	C.
Bradenham, Eaft and Weft	4	8	6	0
Cockley-Cley - -	0	0	5	5
Creffingham, Great and Little	9	10	0	0
Didlington - -	0	1	1	0

	W.	deG.	A.	C.
Fouldon - - -	5	6	1	0
Gooderstone - -	2	2	0	0
Hilburgh - - -	4	4	0	0
Holm-Hale - -	5	5	2	2
Houghton on the Hill -	1	1	0	0
Narburgh - - -	0	2	2	0
Narford - - -	0	2	0	2
Neeton - - -	6	6	2	2
Newton - - -	0	0	2	2
Oxburgh - - -	3	3	0	0
Pickenham, North and South	4	4	0	0
Sporle with Palgrave -	4	4	1	1
Swaffham - -	23	31	8	13
	70	89	30	27

Seats and principal houſes in South Greenhoe.

Bodney,	Francis Taſburgh, eſq.
Bradenham, Weſt	James Smyth, eſq.
Cockley Cley,	John Richard Daſhwood, eſq.
Creſſingham, Little	Earl Clermont.
Didlington,	Henry William Wilſon, eſq.
Hilburgh,	Ralph Cauldwell, eſq.
Narburgh,	Sir Henry Peyton, bart.
Ditto,	Rev. Henry Spelman.
Narford,	Briggs Price Fountain, eſq.
Neeton,	William Maſon, eſq.
Pickenham, South	Thomas Lobb Chute, eſq.
Swaffham,	Anthony Hammond, eſq.

The eaſtern part of this hundred is a very good ſoil, and chiefly incloſed, and hath its ſhare of wood; the weſtern part is open, and a very poor barren

barren ſandy ſoil, though now ſo much improved by marling and claying, that it often produces very good crops of corn. It is in extent from eaſt to weſt about twelve miles, and from ſouth to north, eleven; and contains twenty-four parith towns, all of which are in the deanry of Cranwich.

BODNEY. This is a depopulated village, and conſiſts only of a manor-houſe, a farm-houſe adjoining, and a poor rectory-houſe, like a cottage, at the eaſt end of the church-yard: it lies on the eaſt ſide of a little rivulet that runs by Creſſingham Magna, and thence ſouthwards to this place.

In Doomſday-book it is wrote Bredencia, and ſo takes its name from its ſcite, a dwelling or abode on the water.

This water, on the melting of a greal fall of ſnow, or heavy rains, is very dangerous, and to be cautiouſly avoided.

On the general diſſolution of abbies, this manor came to the crown, and was given to the duke of Norfolk, who was lord in the 37th of Henry VIII. and in that year the ſaid duke had licence to alienate it, with the appurtenances in Langford, Hilburgh, Creſſingham Magna and Parva.

This manor came into poſſeſſion of ſir Edward Moſtyn, bart. of Moſtyn in Flintſhire, and was ſold by him to the family of ſir John Taſburgh, of Flixton-hall in Suffolk, whoſe lineal deſcendant, Francis Taſburgh, eſq. is the preſent lord: he married a ſiſter of the late lord viſcount Gage, of the kingdom of Ireland, who is deceaſed, but left no children.

The manor-houſe ſtands near the church, and is a large convenient old houſe, built of clunch, ſtone, &c. with good gardens and walks, adjoining to the river ſide.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary; it is a ſingle pile of flint, pebble ſtones, &c. ſtanding on a riſing ground near the hall, in length about thirty-one feet, and eighteen in breadth; at the eaſt end is the chancel, of equal elevation and breadth, and about twenty feet in length, and ſeparated only from the body by an arch of ſtone. On the ſummit of the weſt gable is a ſmall ſtone arch, wherein hangs the bell, the rope coming through the roof into the church, which beſpeaks the antiquity of the church, being built (as is moſt likely) in the Saxon age, and the whole is covered with thatch.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 6l. 7s. 3d.

The patronage of this rectory, or perpetual curacy of Bodney, has been in the crown ſince the 13th of Elizabeth, 1571; and the Rev. Thomas Chamberlayne was preſented by George III. in 1768, and holds it, conſolidated with Great Creſſingham, October 18, 1770.

BRADENHAM, EAST. This village lies at the north-eaſt angle of the hundred, and adjoining to the hundred of Mitford. In the Conqueror's ſurvey it is called Bradeham.

In the Confeſſor's time one Ailid, a Saxon lady, held it, but on the conqueſt it became the lordſhip of Ralph Bainard: it was half a mile and two furlongs

longs in length, and three furlongs in breadth, and was valued at the furvey at 12l.

East Bradenham Manor. In the reign of Henry II. this manor was parcel of the poſſeſſions of Saer de Quincy, earl of Wincheſter, who gave to the canons of Dunmow in Eſſex, a yearly rent of 10s. iſſuing out of this lordſhip: he no doubt held it under the lord Bainard, by which family the aforeſaid abbey was founded.

There were long conteſts for this manor between the earls of Wincheſter and Lincoln, to whom it deſcended by marriage.

In the 2d of Edward II. 1274, Henry Lacy, earl of Lincoln, conveyed by fine this manor and advowſon to Thomas, abbot of Bury, and to the convent, who was to receive the earl as a benefactor: this earl died on St. Agatha, the virgin, in 1310, in Chancery-lane, London, and was buried on the ſouth ſide of the altar of St. Paul's, aged 60 years.

Afterwards, in the 9th of Edward II. the abbot of Bury, and the heir of William de Huntingfeld, are ſaid to be lords of this town.

In the 3d of Henry IV. the abbot of Bury held this manor, and that of Huntingfeld's, being together one knight's fee, of the earl of Lincoln, that earl of the earl of Rutland in right of his wife, who held *in capite*, as parcel of his barony called Bainard, and in this abbey this manor and that of Huntingfeld's (now united) continued till the general diſſolution, when the king ſeized it, and in the 35th of his reign granted the advowſon of the church to Robert Hogan, to be held *in capite*, but the manor

was farmed of the crown by the faid Robert Hogan, efq. and after in queen Elizabeth's time by Thomas Hogan, efq. for 34l. 13s. 4d. per ann. and in the 34th of the faid queen, Henry Hogan, efq. was poffeffed in his own right, and made a jointure of the manor to Ann his wife, daughter of fir Henry Wodehoufe, of Waxham, and dying in the faid reign, left Robert his fon, a minor, which Robert, at the inftigation of his mother, who had him in ward, being near his full age, and in his ficknefs, of which he died, levied a fine in the 10th of James I. of his lands here, &c. part to the ufe of his mother, then the lady Cæfar, (being married to fir Julius Cæfar, of Bennington) concerning which there were great fuits at law between this lady Cæfar, and his own fifter, married to Mr. Day.

After this it was poffeffed by the Hungates, and was mortgaged and fold by Henry Hungate, efq. who died in 1668, and then by Mrs. Lucy Hungate; afterwards it came to Mr. Morris, whofe niece being married to fir William Goulfton, of London, who prefented to the church in 1683, brought it into that family. From fir William it defcended to Maurice Goulfton, efq. who fold it to Edmund Beagn, efq.

It afterwards came into poffeffion of Thomas Bridges, efq. whofe widow Ann, (daughter of the late Richard Jackfon, efq. of Weafenham) fince married to rear-admiral Derby of the royal navy, is in prefent poffeffion.

Huntingfeld Hall. Of the Huntingfelds we find that Roger, lord of the manor of Huntingfeld in Suffolk, foon after the conqueft, aflumed the name of his lordfhip, and left it to William de Hunting-

feld

feld his ſon and heir, who founded Mendham priory in Suffolk, and died in 1155.

In the reign of Edward I. Roger de Huntingfeld was lord here, who was one of thoſe noble peers that ſent pope Boniface word that the kingdom of Scotland was not of his fee, and that he had no juriſdiction in temporal affairs over either of the kingdoms, which was ſubſcribed at the parliament held at Lincoln.

From the lords Huntingfeld it came to the earls of Suffolk; from them to the abbey of Bury, and at the diſſolution it was granted away by Hen. VIII. and has had the ſame lords with the other manor to which it was then united.

Hammond's Manor. In the reign of Richard II. William lord Bardolph, of Wormegay, had lands here.

It afterwards came to the Hammonds, and took its name from them; thence to the Hungates, and by one of that family was joined to the other manor, and ſo continues.

This village takes its name from *Brade*, which in Saxon ſignifies *Broad*, and *Ham*, a village; the houſes lying ſcattered and diſperſed about the common at this time.*

In this town ariſes a ſpring, which making a little rivulet, paſſes by North and South Pickenham, Creſſingham Magna, Hilburgh, &c. and empties itſelf into the Great Ouſe below Hilgay bridge.

The

* Blomefield.

The church of East Bradenham is dedicated to St. Mary, and consists of a nave, a north and south aile, with a chancel built of flint, stones, &c. and covered with lead; the vault of the nave is supported by octangular pillars, forming eight arches, four on a side, and is in length about fifty-seven feet, and in breadth with the two ailes about thirty-nine feet; at the west end of the nave is a convenient and decent gallery erected for the singers, joining to the tower, which is four-square, and of the same materials with the church. In this tower hang three bells.

The chancel is in length about thirty-three feet, and in breadth about eighteen: within the rails of the communion-table lies a black marble grave-stone with this shield—Gul. a chevron ingrail'd between three talbots sejant, arg. Hungate.

In memory of Henry Hungate, of East Bradenham, esq. who died the 16*th of May*, 1608, *ætat. suæ* 44.

On the pavement in the chancel lies another, with four iron rings, as the cover of a vault, and on it,

Reliquiæ Johannis Green Armigeri Comitatus Norfolciæ dicti Justitiarij in cujus piam Memoriam, non hoc uno contenta Marmore, Monumentum ad lævum posuit ex antiqua Hungatorum Familia, Oriunda, Martha Mœstissima Conjux.

Against the south wall is a large and neat monument of marble, ornamented with the busts of a man and a woman, two cupids and an urn, and the arms of Green, per pale azure and gul. a chev. between three bucks tripping or, impaling Hungate, and thus inscribed,

Johanens

Johannes Green armiger, vice comitis officio apud Norfolcienſes, ſumma cum Laude defunctus, Deo rationem redditurus, ad cœlos obijt April 28, *Anº Salutis*, 1684, *ætat. ſuæ* 35. *Tu autem lector, hunc verum eccleſiæ filium, fidelem regis ſubditum, cleri, bonorumque omnium Amicum, omni quo potes modo proſequere, Supremi Judicij Memor.*

In a window are the arms of Bury abbey.

The abbot and convent of Bury St. Edmund's preſented from 1313 till the diſſolution in 1535, when Robert Hogan, eſq. held the patronage: after this it was in the family of Hungate, and Cæſar by marriage.

In 1683 ſir William Gouldſon preſented, as did his heirs ſo late as 1722: but in 1735 the Rev. Joſeph Croſts was preſented to this rectory by the late Mr. Gibſon Lucas of Shipdham, and George Lucas, eſq. is now patron.

The church at the conqueſt was endowed with fifteen acres of land, and there is at preſent a ſmall manor belonging to the rectory.

BRADENHAM, WEST. In Doomſday-book we find that William earl Warren held lands here; as did Ralph de Toney. The Kailli's, or Caley's, were no doubt very early enfeoffed in this town by the earl Warren.

This manor was afterwards held by the Clifton family, the Knevets, and Reads.

In the 1ſt of queen Elizabeth, 1559, William Read had livery of theſe manors, Weſt Bradenham, Gooderſtone,

Gooderſtone, &c. in Norfolk, with three in Suffolk, and by a daughter and co-heir of ſir William Read, of Maſſingham in Norfolk, it came by marriage to ſir William Wythypole, of Chriſt church in Ipſwich, Suffolk, deſcended from ſir Robert Wythypole, of Wythypole in Shropſhire.

In 1649, colonel Leiceſter Devereux was lord of one third part, in right of Elizabeth, one of the daughters and co-heirs of ſir William Wythypole, who was ſon of the lord viſcount Hereford; and Robert Yallop, eſq. who in right of his wife, another co-heireſs, had two parts of three of this manor. In 1665, the lord viſcount Hereford having purchaſed the whole, ſold it to Henry Warner, eſq. of Wormill-hall, near Mildenhall in Suffolk, who ſold it to Robert Thompſon, eſq. about 1684: from the Thompſons it deſcended to the wife of Anthony Burward, of Woodbridge in Suffolk.

Bradenham's Manor. Sir Thomas Tuddenham died ſeiſed of this manor, thence it came to the Bedingfields, and is now united to earl Warren's manor.

Plais's Manor. This manor in Edward II. was held by Richard le Plays, and bore his name: it has been long ſince united to the capital manor.

The church of Weſt Bradenham is dedicated to St. Andrew, and conſiſts of a nave, a north and ſouth aile, all built of flint, &c. and covered with lead: the nave is in length about forty-four feet, and in breadth, with the two iſles, about thirty-ſix feet. The roof of the nave is ſupported by pillars formed of four pilaſters united together, making

eight

eight arches, four on a ſide, with a window over each arch.

The chancel is ſeparated from the nave by an old wooden ſcreen, over which the king's arms are painted; and it is in length about twenty-nine feet, and in breadth about eighteen. On the pavement, towards the weſt end, lies a very antique marble grave-ſtone, deprived of its braſſes; its inſcription was between two fillets of braſs round the verge of the ſtone: at the ſummit of the ſtone, in a nich like a quarterfoil, was the head of a prieſt in braſs, and a croſs runs the length of the ſtone, with ſomething couchant at the feet of it. From the inciſion made to let the letters of braſs in, this appears to be the inſcription:

CONTINET. HÆC. FOSSA. THOMÆ. NUNC. CORPUS. ET. OSSA.
ECCLESIÆ. RECTOR. HUJUS. EXTITIT. ATQUE. PROTECTOR.
GRATIA. QUÆSO. DEI. PROPITIETUR. EI.

This was in memory of Thomas Caley, who was rector in the reign of Edward I.

The above is one inſtance among many others, of what were called the *Verſus Leonini* of the monks, verſes rhiming in the middle, from a lion's tail, which has a knot or tuft of hair in the middle.

Againſt the ſouth wall of the chancel, near the eaſt end, are three arches, with ſeats for the biſhop, prieſt, and deacon, one ſeat riſing higher than the other, and at the head of the uppermoſt is an arch for holy water. In the north wall is a neat carved arch, to preſerve relicks in. Theſe arches and cupboards in walls, to be obſerved in many chancels,

were

were the *Tabernacula* or repoſitories, where the holy Oil and Chriſm, Euchariſt, and ſometimes Relicks were preſerved and ſecured.

On the top of a north window in the chancel is a ſhield of Caley.

In the reign of Edward I. the Caleys were patrons.

In 1352, in the reign of Edward III. Roger de Wylby was rector.

The advowſon of this rectory was given to the priory of Buckenham in Norfolk by ſir Adam de Cliſton, and on the 27th of April, 1384, was appropriated to that convent by Henry Spencer, biſhop of Norwich, and a vicarage was ſettled to take place at the death of Roger de Wylby, then rector. The vicar was to have a convenient habitation, and to receive to the value of ten marks per ann. out of the profits of the rectory, that being computed to be the third part of the real value of it. The prior and convent of Norwich, and the biſhop was always to nominate to the prior and convent, who were obliged to preſent on ſuch nomination.

The patronage of this vicarage came to the ſee of Ely, by virtue of an exchange made for theſe ſpirituals for ſome of the temporals of that ſee, and the biſhop of Ely firſt preſented in 1625.

The Rev. Charles Topping, the preſent vicar, was preſented by the biſhop of Ely, Jan. 5, 1765.

Weſt Bradenham lies in the neighbourhood of Eaſt Dereham, weſt about four or five miles.

An

An elegant ſeat has lately been built in this village by James Smythe, eſq. of Eaſt Dereham, who has conſiderable property in this parith, and in Dereham, for which hundred he acts in the commiſſion of the peace. and being bred to the law, is a very valuable magiſtrate to the community he lives in.

CALDECOTE, now by corruption called Cocket. This townſhip is now reduced to a ſingle farm-houſe, which ſtands ſouth of a little rivulet which divides the hundred of South Greenhoe from that of Clackcloſe; it lies to the weſt of Shingham, and north of Oxburgh. In Doomſday-book it is wrote *Caldenchota* and *Caldechota*, from *Cald*, a cold, and *Cott*, a village or houſe.

Sir Henry de Caldecote held this village in the reign of Edward I.

In the 13th of Richard II. William Ode, who married Matilda, daughter and heir of John Mann, held the third part of this manor, and in this family it continued till about the end of the reign of king Henry VI. when it was conveyed to Richard Sparwe, gent. of Oxburgh, who in the year 1482 ſettled it on a chauntsy, which he then founded in the church of Oxburgh, of which more may be ſeen under Oxburgh.

In the 10th of Henry IV. Thomas Fykes, &c. held a court here, as lords of the other parts of this town; and in the 4th of Henry V. ſir William Calthorpe held his firſt court.

In the 16th of Henry VI. a fine was levied between ſir Thomas Tuddenham, knt. &c. querents, Hugh Methwold, and Alice his wife, defendants, of

two

two parts of this manor, conveyed to ſir Thomas, who died ſeiſed thereof in 1461, without iſſue; and Margaret, his ſiſter and heir, being married to Edmund Bedingfield, eſq. brought it into that family; and in the 13th of Henry VII. ſir Edmund Bedingfield, Knight of the Bath, grandſon of the aforeſaid Margaret, was found to have the lordſhip, whoſe immediate heir and deſcendant, ſir Richard Bedingfield, bart. of Oxborough, is the preſent lord.

The leet of this town, with that of Shingham, is in the lord of the hundred; the leet-fee per ann. 6d.

The church, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, hath been in ruins above a century paſt, many of the walls are ſtill ſtanding; the ſcite of it is on an hill on the north ſide, and near to the yards of the manor or farm-houſe: it was a ſingle building of flint, chalk, &c. in length about twenty-ſeven feet, and ſeventeen in breadth, with a north and a ſouth door, and two ſtone pedeſtals, or perks, for images are ſtill to be ſeen by the ſaid doors, and againſt the eaſt wall or gable are two arches or niches for the ſaid purpoſe: to this body there was anciently a chancel annexed, as appears from the foundation walls, about twenty feet in length and thirteen in breadth. The great decay of this and other churches in Norfolk, is owing to the materials, which are for the moſt part ſmall pebbles, flint-ſtones, and calk or chalk, to be found in plenty in the fields and lands: the Romans, when they made uſe of ſuch ſmall ſtones, uſed to have a layer of their brick in the ſpace of about a foot and an half, to preſs and bind them together, which method Vitruvius, the prince of architecture, recommends.

The

The Rev. Robert Rolfe, rector of Hilburgh, was preſented to the rectory of Caldecote in 1700.

COCKLEY-CLEY. In Doomſday it occurs by the name of Gleia, Cleiatorpa, (that is, *Cleie Thorpe*) and Cley, and takes its name from the ſtream or river that riſes at the head, and runs through the midſt of the town, and ſo to Gooderſtone and Oxburgh, where it falls into the Wiſſey.

WEST-HALL MANOR. This manor in the reign of Henry VIII. after the diſſolution of the abbies, being held before by the prior of Ingham, was granted to William Wodehouſe, eſq. of Yaxham; thence it came to the family of the Hogans, and ſo the Bedingfields, and ſir Richard Bedingfield, bart. of Oxburgh, is the preſent lord.

John Richard Daſhwood, eſq. nephew of the late Richard Daſhwood, eſq. has a ſeat here, ſituated in a fine ſporting country, about three miles from Swaffham. He married the eldeſt daughter of the late ſir Horatio Pettus, bart. of Rackheath near Norwich, ſome few years deceaſed.

The father of the late Richard Daſhwood, eſq. bought this houſe of the Wodehouſes, and built to it.

LANGWADE MANOR is alſo in the preſent ſir Richard Bedingfield, of Oxburgh.

EAST-HALL MANOR is alſo in the preſent ſir Richard Bedingfield.

The EARL WARREN'S MANOR is united to the foregoing lordſhips.

William Bagge, efq. of Lynn, has conſiderable property in this town.

The lord of the hundred has the lete for the eaſt part of the town, or Cley St. Peters; the lete-fee is 1s. and he alſo has the lete for that part of the town called Lenwade, as appears from the antient hundred court rolls: and the lord of Gooderſtone has the lete for the weſtern part of the town, or All Saints.

All Saints church ſtands at the weſt end of the town; it is built chiefly of flint, conſiſts of a nave, a ſouth aile, and a chancel covered with lead. The nave is in length about thirty-five feet, and, including the ſouth aile, about the ſame in breadth; at the weſt end of the nave is a round tower of flint, embattled with freeſtone, in which is one bell.

The chancel is in length about thirty-two feet, and in breadth about eighteen, and is ſeparated from the nave by a new wooden ſcreen, painted; the communion table is railed in, and has an aſcent of two ſteps, and the eaſt end of the chancel is moſtly of freeſtone.

St. Mary's chapel has been time immemorial converted into a houſe for the rector of All Saints: it is a very antient pile, as appears from its caſe of flint, &c. and the building is much more antique than the preſent mother church of All Saints; the nave or body is loftier than the chancel part, which is in the form of a creſcent, according to the Daniſh taſte and cuſtom; and the old arch at the eaſt end is ſtill remaining, where is the light or window for this part now a kitchen. The whole is about thirty-one feet in length, and twenty-one in breadth.

About

About the walls of the nave may be obſerved ſeveral ſmall arches, where the old windows were.

The firſt account to be met with of this chapel, is from an old roll, (in the reign of Henry III.) wherein ſir William de Valeyns is ſaid to have the advowſon of the church of All Saints, endowed with one hundred and eight acres of land, one of paſture, and a freefald, with the chapel of St. Mary, (which he keeps to his own uſe) of the gift of ſir William Blund, formerly lord of the village. It may not be improper here to obſerve, that this ſir William deſcended from Gilbert de Blund or Blount, who came into England with the Conqueror, and had large poſſeſſions given him in Suffolk, and founded at Ixworth, (of which he was lord) a famous priory for Canons Regular of St. Auguſtine.

This ſir William was killed at the battle of Lewes in Suſſex, between Henry III. and his barons, in 1262, and left his eſtate to his two ſiſters and heirs, Agnes, who married ſir William Criketot, and Roheſia, who married ſir Robert de Valeyns: this ſir William Blund, bore lozenge or, and ſable, and Valeyns, bore Arg. three piles wavy gules.

In 1384, mention is alſo made of this chapel in a will; and in 1533, the biſhop of Norwich gave licence to the rector of All Saints, to have the ſacrament of the Holy Euchariſt in the ſaid chapel, by which it appears that it was not then prophaned, but ſoon after, it was made the rectory-houſe for the rector of All Saints, and ſo continues to this day. In 1731, the rector's (the Rev. Mr. Bain's) workmen clearing the well, on the north ſide of the houſe, which caved in, the bones and remains of three perſons were found adjoining, as they were laid

when buried; and in the garden here many human bones have been dug up, which shews it to have had the privilege of burial, which was seldom granted to any chapel, when the mother church was so near.

St. Peter's church stood at the east end of the town, adjoining to the garden walls of Richard Dashwood, esq. The wall of flint, wherewith the churchyard was inclosed, may still be observed, and the steeple of the church, which is said to have been accidentally burnt in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was standing about seventy years past.

Town lands. New-close at the west end of the town, lett for 2li. per ann.—Land in Swaffham, lett for 11i. 16s. 6d. per ann.——Land in Oxburgh, given by the Rev. Mr. Yorker, rector of Cley All Saints, lett for 3li. per ann. The profits of this every sixth year, belongs to Oxburgh.

In 1735, the Rev. Henry Topping was presented to the consolidated rectory of Cockley-Cley, All Saints with St. Peter, by Edward Walpole, esq.

CRESSINGHAM, GREAT. This town takes name from a little river or creak adjoining, termed by the Saxons *Gfecca*. In Doomsday-book it is accounted for under the lands of William bishop of Thetford, the see being not then removed to Norwich.

Cressingham, or the Dean and Chapter of Norwich's Manor. This manor was enjoyed by the bishops of the see till the reign of king Stephen, when Eborard the bishop, being distressed in the wars between the king and the empress Maud, was obliged

obliged to reſign his right in this town, and in part of Blickling in Norfolk, to two powerful knights and leaders, to preſerve the reſt of his biſhoprick: but this being done without the conſent or advice of his convent, he afterwards entreated pope Eugenius to abſolve him, and that the ſaid lordſhips might be reſtored to his church of Norwich; and accordingly this lordſhip came again into the biſhop's hands, and in the beginning of king John's reign.

In 1513, or ſoon after, it came to the Jenneys, who held it of the dean and chapter of Norwich on the diſſolution of the priory. From the Jenneys it came to alderman Farrington, of London, who conveyed it to Samuel Grant, counſellor, of London, who held it in 1692; and Edward Chute, eſq. purchaſed it of Grant, whoſe two ſons, Leonard and Devereux, dying without iſſue, it deſcended to Thomas Lobb Chute, eſq. of South Pickenham, who holds it of the dean and chapter.

The old hall belonging to this lordſhip appears by the arms on the walls to be built by the Jenneys.

Hockham's, Glosebrig's, and Ryley's. In the reign of Henry VIII. ſir Chriſtopher Jenney held it, and in him it was united to the manor of Street-hall, and ſo remains.

Street-hall, alias Straw-hall, is with the former manor in Thomas Lobb Chute, eſq. from the Jenneys and Farrington.

The church of Creſſingham Magna is an uniform building, of flint, boulder, &c. and copings of free-ſtone, conſiſting of a nave, north and ſouth aiſles, and a chancel, all covered with lead, and is dedica-

ted to St. Michael. The nave is about forty-eight feet long, and together with the ailes about forty-two feet wide; the vault of the nave is supported by pillars, each formed of four pilasters joined together, which bear up eight neat arches, four on each side, and as many windows over them; the roof is of oak. At the west end of the nave stands the tower, of the same materials as the church, with a wooden cap covered with lead, and a weathercock thereon. In this tower hang four modern bells; and it has a bell-sollar, or place for the ringers: such places were in antient times frequently erected, by the gifts of well disposed persons, for the greater convenience and decency of their processions, that the priest and people coming in at the western door might not be any way incommoded by the ropes and ringers.

Against the north wall is a compartment of stone, adorned with foliages, &c. and on a black marble in the centre,

M. S. Elizabethæ uxoris Thomæ Lobb Armigeri, Thomæ Chute Armigeri filiæ Natu maximæ, qui patrem habuit Chalonerum e Com' Hants. Armig' in Comitijs Provincialibus non ita pridem Prolocutorem. Virtutis exercitatæ non minus quam Patriæ virum. Ipsa vero acceptam hanc a Proavis, si non adauxerit, propriam certe fecit, cum omnes quæ filiam, Uxorem, et Matrem commendare possunt, impleret partes, Hinc parvum fortasse videatur quod Patrimonio a Fratre Tho. Lenn. Chute, ei relicto, mariti locupleret Ædes, cum antea Cumulatiori multo dote se Virtutum omnium cohonestaslat. Die Septembris Vicesſimo Septimo An°. Dni. 1725. Puerpura infeliciter extincta est, Filium unum, duasque Filiolas Connubialis Tori pignora relinquens, memor et Mœrens hunc Lapidem posuit Maritus.

On

On the pavement, near to the ſouth wall, lies a marble grave-ſtone, with this ſhield, or, on a bend between two fleur de lys gul. a lion paſſant of the firſt. Lany.

H. S. E.
EDWARDUS LANY
S. T. P. Aulæ Pembrocianæ apud Cantabrigienſes
Scholaris, Socius, CUSTOS.
Collegij Greſhamienſis apud Londinenſes
Prælector Theologicus,
Academiæ A. D. MDCCVIII Procancellarius,
Hujuſce Eccleſiæ, antea de SALLE in hoc Agro,
Rector,
Moritur,
Aulæ, Collegio, Academiæ, Eccleſiæ,
Vir Deſideratiſſimus,
V Idus Auguſt A. D. MDCCXXVIII. Ætatis LXI.

The arms of the priory of Norwich remain in the eaſt window, and in one of the north windows.

On an altar monument, at the weſt end of the church-yard:

Hic jacet humatus Vir Reverendus Gulielmus Chambers, variis moleſtijs diutiſſime fatigatus, ſolutus tandem ex Corporis ergaſtulo, placide ſicut vixerat, in Chriſto Obdormiens; obijt Septimo Die Januarij An°. Domini MDCCXX. *Ætat' ſuæ* 55.

In 1598, William Boulton, S. T. B. was rector, with the chapel of St. George annexed.

This chapel ſtood in a cloſe about a mile ſouth-eaſt from the town, called Stone-Cloſe, belonging to the rector, and was the chapel of an hermit.—

Here is a fair kept yearly on the 1ſt of Auguſt, belonging to the rector, in right of this chapel, which was anciently parochial.

In 1622, Edward Francklin, S. T. B. chaplain to the lord chancellor Bacon, was rector, and in 1621 he had a diſpenſation to hold the rectory of St. Laurence, with the vicarage of Kelvedon, alias Eaſterfield, in Eſſex. In the rebellion he was ejected out of this, and the rectory of Creſſingham Parva: and in endeavouring to eſcape from the rebels, the point of a pale in his garden run into his groin, of which wound he died, leaving a widow and four children.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Thomas Chamberlain, ſon of the late rector the Rev. Edward Chamberlain, who reſigned the living ſome time before his deceaſe. The preſent rector was preſented by the crown in 1768.

This rectory, with the chapel of St. George, ſtands in the king's books at 17l. 18s. 1d. and were conſolidated with Bodney, Oct. 18, 1770.

CRESSINGHAM, LITTLE. At the ſurvey Ralph de Tony held this village as a beruite depending on his manor of Nedton. It was in length one mile, and half a mile in breadth.

The late Mr. Knopwood, of Threxton, ſold this manor to the preſent Earl Clermont, of the kingdom of Ireland, the preſent lord; who has made ſome conſiderable improvements on the eſtate, and has laid the foundation for a manſion-houſe.

HOPTON-HOUSE MANOR. About a mile ſouth of the village, in this pariſh, ſtands a farm-houſe, called Hopton-houſe.

In 1249, Nicholas de Hopeton was lord of this manor, from whom probably the manor took its name.

This manor is now in the poſſeſſion of ſir William de Grey, knt. the preſent lord chief juſtice of the Common Pleas, by a late purchaſe.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 13l. 12s. 6d.

In 1747 the Rev. John Brundiſh, jun. was preſented to the rectory of Creſſingham Parva by John Sloley, clerk.

DIDLINGTON, or DUDLINGTON. In the Conqueror's time this townſhip, then wrote Dudelingtuna, had two lordſhips; one held by the earl Warren, the other by Ralph lord Limeſey.

The EARL WARREN'S MANOR. Robert Wilſon, eſq. of Merton in Surry, who died Nov. 11, 1660, and was ſon of Rowland Wilſon, merchant of London, who ſined for alderman, by Catherine his wife, daughter of Richard Rudd, citizen of London, afterwards wife of John Highlord, alderman of London, bought this manor in 1650 of ſir John Sidley, bart. of St. Clees in Kent.

The ſaid Rowland is ſaid to have founded an almshouſe at Merton.

Robert married Catherine, daughter of Edward Aſhe, of London, merchant, father of ſir Joſeph Aſhe, knt. and bart. His ſecond wife was Joan, daughter of Mr. Parker, of London, merchant. By his firſt wife he had two ſons, Robert Wilſon, eſq.

who

who died a batchelor in 1701, and Edward Wilſon, of Colveſton, eſq. who married a daughter of Mr. Webſter, of Bungay in Suffolk, by whom he had the late Robert Wilſon, eſq. whoſe nephew, Henry-William Wilſon, eſq. formerly an officer in the regiment of dragoons commanded by marſhal ſir Robert Rich, bart. and late lieut. colonel of the eaſtern battalion of the Norfolk militia, is the preſent lord.

The lord Limeſey's manor is united to the earl Warren's.

The church of Didlington is a regular ſtructure, having a nave, and north and ſouth ailes, covered with lead; the length of the nave is about forty-nine feet, and the breadth, including the ailes, about forty feet; the reſt of the nave is of oak, and the vault of it is ſupported by octangular pillars, forming eight arches, four on a ſide.

In the windows are the arms of Scales, Bardolph, earl Warren, Howard, Albany, and Clifton.

The chancel is divided from the nave by an ancient ſcreen, and is in length about forty, and in breadth about ſixteen feet, and has an aſcent of three ſteps to the communion table, which is railed in.

Againſt the ſouth wall, near the eaſt end, is a compartment of free-ſtone, embelliſhed with feſtoons, &c. On the ſummit is, ſable, a wolf ſaliant, or, and in chief a fleur de lys, arg. between two bezants of the 2d. Wilſon; and in the center, on a black marble, this inſcription in letters of gold:

Here lyeth the body of Robert Wilſon, of Didlington in the County of Norfolk, Eſq; ſon and heir of Robert

Robert Wilſon, of Merton in the County of Surry, Eſq, He departed this Life on the 10*th of December,* 1701, *in the* 51*ſt year of his age.*

Under the ſhield is this Motto:

Deducet in Portum.

On a like compartment againſt the north wall is this inſcription:

Here lyeth the body of Edward Wilſon, of Didlington, Eſq; ſecond Son of Robert Wilſon, of Merton in the County of Surry, Eſq; He departed this Life April 3, 1708, *in the Year of his Age* 55. *Here alſo lyeth the body of Catherine Wilſon, Daughter to the ſaid Edward Wilſon, who departed this Life* 29*th September* 1699. *Here alſo lyeth the body of Catherine Wilſon, another daughter of the ſaid Edward Wilſon, who departed this Life February* 11, 1708.

The church of Didlington was formerly a rectory. The church was appropriated to the convent of Marham on the 20th of December, 1302, by John, biſhop of Norwich, and a vicar endowed.

In 1570, John Holdich, eſq. preſented, who purchaſed the rectory, and the preſentation to the vicarage, from John Hare, citizen and mercer of London.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 8l. 4s. 4d. and in 1748 the Rev. John Brundiſh, jun. was preſented to the vicarage of Didlington, with the rectory of Colneſton, conſolidated in 1616.

The preſent patron of this vicarage is Henry-William Wilſon, eſq. who reſides at the family ſeat at Didlington.

This

This village lies near Oxburgh, and is eight miles from Swaffham to the south-west.

FOULDON. At the great survey this town occurs by the name of Fulgadona, Fuleudun, and Phuldon, and takes its name from the plenty of wild fowl which frequented it, it being seated in the midst of fens and moraſſes; *Fugel*, in Saxon, ſignifies *wild fowl*, and in ſome antique writings it is wrote Fugeldune.

The EARL WARREN'S MANOR. Margaret, relict of Edmund Bedingfield, eſq. ſiſter and heireſs to ſir Thomas Tuddenham, died ſeiſed of the manor here.

LATIMER'S MANOR. In the 6th of queen Elizabeth, Miles Holdich, ſon and heir of Richard, was lord, and held it by the payment or ſervice of one roſe yearly to the queen, and after him John Holdich. After this it came by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heireſs of Henry Holdich, eſq. to ſir John Sidley, and his ſon ſir John Sidley, bart. ſold it to Robert Long, eſq. of the family of Reymerſton in Norfolk, whoſe ſon Robert was lord, and his ſon ſold it to the lady Bennet, widow of ſir Levinus Bennet.

This manor is now in the family of the Tyſons, and —— Tyſon, eſq. of Hackey, is the preſent lord. The leet is in Mr. Tyſon, as lord of the manor.

The church is a regular pile, having a nave, with a north and ſouth aile of flint, &c. in length about fifty-two feet, and in breadth, with the ailes, about forty-four feet; the nave is laid with free-ſtone, as are the paſſages between the north and ſouth doors,

at

at the coſt and charge of Mr. Raymond: the roof of the nave is of oak, and covered with lead, (as the whole church is) ſupported by octangular pillars, which form eight lofty arches, four on a ſide; above are ſix windows, three on a ſide, over the pillars. At the weſt end of the nave is a four-ſquare tower of flint, &c. with quoins and embattlements of free-ſtone, and on them eight ſtone pinnacles, carved. In this tower hang five ſmall tuneable bells, the treble was the gift of Mr. Raymond, and has his arms caſt on it.

Againſt the north-eaſt wall of the nave, near to the chancel, is a monument of grey marble, adorned with foliages, and on the corniſh is this ſhield,—Raymond, ſable a chevron between three eaglets diſplay'd, arg. on a chief of the ſecond, a bendlet engrailed between two martlets of the firſt; the creſt, a cat ſejant arg. On a black marble in the center, this inſcription in letters of gold:

Under this Pew lyeth buried the body of Sarah, only daughter of Humphrey, ſecond Son of Humphrey Moſely, of Ouſden-hall in Suffolk, Eſq; the moſt endearing and beloved wife of Burham, eldeſt Son of Thomas Raymond, the firſt ſole Keeper of the Papers of State and Council at Whitehall to King Charles II. She lived and died very religiouſly, July 1ſt, 1700. The diſconſolate Burham, to his moſt endearing and beloved Conſort, has cauſed this Monument to be erected, in token of his ſincere and laſting Love to her deſerved Memory.

Her love to him, his ſorrow for her death
Were equal, for they end, but with their breath.

Here

Here alſo lyeth the body of Burham Raymond, huſband to the aforeſaid Sarah, who died December 30, 1728, *aged* 80 *years.*

A large arched monument is raiſed on the foundation of the ſouth aile, facing the church-yard, of free-ſtone; under this arch, on the ground, lies a flat marble grave-ſtone, partly covered by the arch, and partly by the wall. Theſe arched monuments, and this immuring of founders, was practiſed in ancient days; and this ſeems to be built about the reign of Edward I.

At the eaſt end of this aile, is the ſtone ſtair-caſe which led to the rood-loft. Joining to this ſouth aile is a porch covered with lead, and over the door a pedeſtal for ſome image.

The church is divided from the chancel by a ſcreen, which hath been curiouſly carved and painted, ornamented with canopy work and images: this chancel is in length about thirty-eight feet, and in breadth about twenty, hath a good roof of oak, covered with lead.

In the eaſt window in two places, and in one on the ſouth ſide, is Bateman, ſab. a creſcent ermine in a bordure engrailed, arg. And was thus borne by Bateman, biſhop of Norwich, executor to Edmund Gonville, founder of the college of that name in Cambridge.

Againſt the north wall of this chancel, is a very large and lofty mural monument of black and white marble, adorned with foliages, having two black marble pillars of the Corinthian order, with their capitals gilt with gold, ſupporting the cornith; on

that

that the buſto of an angel with wings of gold, above that the figure of an angel, winged as before, and on the ſummit, Longe, gules a ſaltire engrailed or. on a chief of the ſecond, three croſlets pattee of the firſt; and on a black marble in the center of the monument, this epitaph in letters of gold.

Quod ſupereſt Ornatiſſimi Viri Roberti Longe armigeri, ſub cortice marmoreo hic prope poſito, jacet reconditum. Vixit non minus patriæ, quam ſuorum commodo, annos ſexaginta et octo, obijt (proh dolor) decimo ſeptimo die Septembris, anno redemptionis 1656, *habens ex unica uxore Elizabetha, tres filios, Robertum, Henricum, et Richardum, et quinque filias, Elizabetham, Margaretam, Suſannam, Mariam, et Sarah, prognatos et ſuperſtites, hujus merito amoris ſui fideliſſimi memoriæ, ſacrum hoc dedit pignus, Elizabetha predicta jam mœrens vidua.*

On the pavement lies the grave-ſtone of marble, thus inſcribed,

ROBERTUS } LONGE, obijt { 17 *Septemb.* 1656.
ELIZABETHA } { 10 *Octob.* 1666.

On the pavement near the eaſt end of the chancel is a marble grave-ſtone thus inſcribed:

Hic jacet corpus Suſann: uxoris ſecundæ Roberti Longe de Fouldon, in Com Norff. armig. et filiæ ſecund. Clem. Heigham de Barrow in Com. Suff. armig. obijt viceſſimo ſexto die Aprilis, anno Domini 1689.

About the year 1349, Gonville hall or college, in Cambridge, bought the patronage of this church; and June 16, 1350, the biſhop of Norwich appropriated

priated the rectory to that college, when a vicarage was ſettled.

In 1760. the maſters and fellows of Gonville and Caius college, Cambridge, preſented the Rev. Samuel Newman to this vicarage, conſolidated with Oxborough; and in 1765 the Rev. John White was preſented.

GOODERSTONE, or GODDERSTON, in Doomſday-book occurs by the name of Godeſtuna, that is, *a town ſeated by a good ea or water*, a pretty rivulet running all along the north ſide of it, and not as ſome have thought, *Goderic's town*, from Goderic the ſewer, lord of it by the Conqueror's gift.

This manor in the reign of Henry VIII. was in the earl of Kent; from that earl it came to ſir William Capel, lord mayor of London, and ſo to the earl of Eſſex, and that earl is the preſent lord.

The lete is in the lord of the manor, and we find by the extent of the honor of Forncet, that it was held of that honor.

The church is built of flint and boulder, dedicated to St. George: it conſiſts of a nave or body, a ſouth aile and a chancel, all covered with lead; the nave is in length about fifty-two feet, and in breadth, including the ſouth aile, about thirty-three feet. In a window of the nave, at the upper end, are the remains of the arms of Grey, quartering Haſtings and Valence, and arg. a croſs gules, St. George's arms, it being glaſed moſt likely by the gild of that name, as appeared lately from a fragment of an inſcription therein. At the weſt end of this nave ſtands a large, but low four-ſquare tower of flint, &c.

&c. with quoins and embattlements of freeſtone, in which are three modern bells. The ſouth aile has been a chauntry or chapel, belonging to St. George's gild; there is an aſcent of two ſteps at the eaſt end, and againſt a pillar, on the left hand, ſtands a large ſtone pedeſtal for its patron ſaint. In the upper pannel of the eaſt window is the buſt of our Saviour, under that, angels ſounding the laſt trump, and the dead ariſing out of their graves, and adjoining to this aile is a porch covered with lead. The chancel is divided from the nave by a lofty ſcreen, which has been well painted and gilt with gold, being carved, and full of imagery work; on the pannels the twelve apoſtles are painted, with labels, alſo a cardinal, a biſhop, &c. The length of the chancel is about twenty-nine feet, the breadth about twenty, and has ſix ſtalls at the weſt end, three on a ſide; where the rector, vicar, their Capellani or chaplains, and the chauntry prieſts had their ſeats, they being obliged to join in the choir at the canonical hours, and to be obedient to the rector or vicar, ſwearing obedience at their admiſſion; and againſt the ſouth wall, near the end, have been three ſeats of ſtone, one higher than the other.—It appears here were ſeveral gilds, and there were the images of St. Catherine, St. Mary, St. Nicholas, and their lights.

It was antiently a rectory, the patronage going with the manor.

Gooderſtone is ſituated about a mile to the weſtward of Cockley-Cley.

In 1775, the Rev. Thomas Dummer Ley was preſented to the vicarage or curacy by Mr. Anthony Horrex,

HILBURGH, Hilberworth, vel Hilborough, or Hillborow. At the time of compiling the great survey, called Doomsday, Keilly's or Caley's held Hilberworth‡ of William earl Warren, who held the same of the Conqueror.

In the 40th year of Edward III. 1367, this manor was in the possession of Adam, son of Roger de Clifton, by Margaret, only sister and heir of sir Thomas de Cailey; and on the 15th of February, 26th of Henry VI. 1448, was, together with Cranwys, West Bradenham, and Babingly cum Wulverton, assigned as the dower of Jane, the wife of sir John Clifton, knt. Elizabeth, sister and heir of this sir John de Clifton, brought Hilburgh with her in marriage to sir William Knyvet, knt. who on the 10th of Edward IV. as we learn from the accounts of the manor, and by written orders under his sign manual and signet, directed sundry payments to be made thereout to Alice, his mother. The sum ordered in that and succeeding years was 40s. each time.

	£.	s.	d.
At this time the rents of assise of this manor were per ann. about -	18	0	0
The park per ann. - -	8	0	0
A water-mill - - -	6	13	8
The rabbit warren - -	30	0	0
Foldage for nine hundred sheep	2	0	4
Besides profits of courts,* &c.			

This

‡ It was then called Hildeburghwella.

* Several lordships then paid rents and reliefs thereto, viz. Illington, Buckenham Parva, Stanford, Bodney, Cley, Fouldon, Didlington, Wroxham, Langford, Gooderston, Ickborough, Tosts, Lindford, Moundeford, and Cressingham; so that it resembles an honor.

This manor continued in the family of Knyvet until the 9th year of king James I. 1612, when ſir Philip Knyvet, of Buckenham caſtle, bart. ſold it to Robert lord Rich, who in the 19th year of the ſame reign, being then earl of Warwick, conveyed it to ſir Ralph Hare, of Stowe Bardolph, knight of the Bath.

The family of Hare were owners of it until the year 1720, when ſir Thomas Hare ſold it to James Nelthorpe, eſq. whoſe ſon, James Nelthorpe, eſq. in the year 1763, ſold this manor and lordſhip of Hilborowe vel Hilberworth, now commonly called Hilburgh, to the preſent poſſeſſor thereof Ralph Caldwell, eſq. F. S. A. and one of his majeſty's juſtices of the peace for the county of Norfolk.

This gentleman, who is deſcended from an ancient family of the ſame name long ſince ſeated in Staffordſhire, having in the year 1769 obtained an act of parliament for incloſing the pariſh of Hilburgh, divided and parcelled out the ſame into convenient farms, on each of which he erected a farm-houſe, with proper offices; and near the old manor-houſe, in the old incloſure called Hilburgh park, hath built for himſelf a fair manſion, 1779.

It appears by the pedigree of the ancient family of Caldwell of Staffordſhire, preſerved in the archives of the college of arms, that John Caldwell, of Caldwell, near Grieſley-caſtle, in the county of Derby, who flouriſhed about the year 1220, bore for his arms, gules, three croſſes patee fitche, or. His great, great grandſon, John Caldwell, about the year 1340, married Alice, ſole daughter and heir of Robert de Auleſton, of Alſton hall in Staffordſhire, who bore for his arms, azure, ten ſtars, 4, 3, 2, 1, or.

This John Caldwell ſeated himſelf at Alſton hall aforeſaid, which continued to be the poſſeſſion and place of reſidence of his family until the year 1740.

One of the deſcendants of this laſt-mentioned John Caldwell, was Thomas Caldwell, born at Alſton hall in the year 1635, who had three ſons, viz. Ralph, Thomas, and John Caldwell, which John was vicar of Routon, rector of Shillington in the county of Dorſet, and domeſtic chaplain to Thomas the laſt earl of Leiceſter. He departed this life in 1758, being then in the 77th year of his age, and left iſſue three ſons, the youngeſt of whom, Ralph Caldwell, eſq. is the preſent poſſeſſor of Hilburgh, 1779.

This Ralph Caldwell, eſq. having been educated in the ſtudy of the law, became land ſteward, receiver, and court-keeper to Thomas Coke, earl of Leiceſter. The earl died in 1759, and by his laſt will not only confirmed the enjoyment of thoſe offices to Mr. Caldwell during the term of his natural life, but appointed him and ſir Matthew Lambe, bart. deviſees in truſt of all his eſtates and effects, and the executors of his will.

The manner in which theſe difficult and important duties have ever ſince been diſcharged by Mr. Caldwell alone, will be beſt teſtified by the ſentiments of his great and generous patroneſs, the late counteſs dowager of Leiceſter, (who died in February, 1775) as expreſſed in her laſt will, bearing date the 15th day of September, 1766; alſo by the great advance made by him of the yearly income of the earl's landed eſtates, which during the forty years that they have been under his management are nearly doubled, as will appear by the rentals thereof at the death

HARLAXTON HALL, LINCOLNSHIRE.

death of the late Wenman Coke, esq. in April, 1766.

The church is a small but regular building, dedicated to All Saints, having its nave, north and south ailes, and chancel built of flint, &c. and covered with lead: the nave is in length about forty-two feet, and the breadth, with the ailes, forty-one feet; the roof of the nave is supported by pillars forming six arches, three on a side, with windows over each arch.

Over the arch of the door of the tower is the shield of Clifton, supported by two antilopes, or rather ibex's sejant, and on an helmet a plume of feathers. These are the insignia of John de Clifton, who flourished in the reign of Edward III. and was summoned to parliament as a baron in the beginning of Richard II. and was no doubt the founder of this church, and died at Rhodes in that king's reign: the being heirs to the Kaillis or Caleys assumed most likely their arms, using only a bend by way of distinction; and the Caleys it is probable, being dependants, and nearly attached to the earl Warren, assumed his coat, changing only the colours, a practice very frequent in ancient days.

The patronage was in the family of Caley till 1335, when lord Robert de Ufford presented, and it remained in the earls of Suffolk some time; after which this church was presented to by the Cliftons. Sir William Knyvet was patron in 1471, and in 1576 and 1581 queen Elizabeth presented.

In 1734 the Rev. Edmund Nelson held it, united to the vicarage of Sporle, with Palgrave Parva consolidated, and at his death, in 1747, was succeeded

by his ſon, the Rev. Edmund Nelſon, who was preſented by Mrs. Mary Nelſon, patroneſs in full right; and in 1756 ſhe preſented the Rev. Robert Rolfe, who is the preſent rector.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 13l. 6s. 8d.

St. Margaret's chapel. At the north weſt end of the town of Hilburgh, in a graſs cloſe, ſtands the chapel of St. Margaret, built of flint and boulder, in length about thirty-ſix feet, and in breadth about twenty, from out to out: the arched windows at the eaſt and weſt are now the only windows remaining; it is a low plain pile, and has the face of great antiquity.

This chapel was founded by the family of Cailly, and ſir Olbert de Cailly, in the reign of Henry III. by deed gave it to Hervey de Brokediſh, the chaplain. To this deed hangs a large round ſeal circumſcribed,

SIGILLVM: OSBERTI: DE: KAILLI:

He is repreſented on a horſe running full ſpeed, in armour, with a cloſe helmet, his drawn ſword in his hand, a ſhield of his arms, chequy only, and the trappings of the horſe are alſo chequy. The reverſe hath only, a plain chequered ſhield circumſcribed,

SIGILLVM. SECRETUM.

This ſeal being ſomewhat remarkable, we ſhall here add a word or two on that ſubject.—Whether the Norman nobility brought the uſe of large ſeals into

into England, or found it here, is not very certain, but certain it is, that they uſed them ſoon after their arrival; the moſt uſual impreſſes being an armed man or knight on horſeback, with a drawn ſword, and the bearers name round him; perhaps the large territories wherewith the Conqueror rewarded their ſervices, induced them to believe themſelves to be advanced to ſo many principalities, and this conceit might incline them to rival their ſovereign himſelf, in the grandeur of their public inſtruments. Sometimes inſtead of the horſeman we have a lion, leopard, greyhound, bird, or other device, part of the arms of the family, but always the perſons own proper name incircling his paternal coat, or whatever other impreſſion he was pleaſed to fancy. Seals as this of a round form generally betokened ſomething of royalty in the poſſeſſor, and a more than ordinary extent of temporal juriſdiction. Whereas great ladies under coverture, and biſhops and abbots, &c. commonly made uſe of oval and oblong ones. If the grantor's quality was mean, and his family too inconſiderable to bear arms, the conveyances were uſually ratified under the authentic ſeal of ſome public officer, or corporation, the reaſon being aſſigned, "*Quia Sigillum meum penitus eſt ignotum, Sigillum Officialis de, &c. apponi procuravi.*" Nobility and other perſons of rank and family had alſo their larger and leſs ſeals, the former giving the impreſſion of their anceſtors coat, and the latter oftentimes any little device without a ſcutcheon.

It has been a prevailing opinion that no ſeals, on wax, were uſed here till the Normans taught us this faſhion; but ſir Edward Coke gives inſtances of grants paſſed by ſome of our Saxon princes, *ſub proprio Sigillo;* but to this it may be reply'd, that the croſſes were antiently ſtiled indifferently *Signa et Sigilla.*

: illa. And as it is plain that ſealing was in common uſ ſo n after the conqueſt, ſo it is certain that there w re ſeveral conveyances which (even as low down as the reign of Edward III.) were admitted as good and legal when well atteſted, though they had no ſeals ever affixed to them, being the grants of ſuch as ſtill adhered to their old Saxon modes, and ſo retained the antient ſubſcriptions of names and croſſes. There were other tranſgreſſions of the common rule and practice, as when Edward III. fancifully gave,

The Norman the Hunter, the Hope
And the Hope-Town,
With all the bounds uſſide down,
And in witneſs that it was ſooth,
*He bit the wax with his ſong Tooth.**

And to Aubrey de Vere's conveyance of Hatfield, a ſhort black haſted knife was affixed inſtead of a ſeal, &c.

Many effectual antient conveyances of right were antiently made without writing, ſeizin being then only taken by delivery of a ſword, helmet, horn, ſpur, bow, arrow, &c. but even in thoſe times, the more cautious thought it ſafeſt to convey their lands *in ſcripis*, hence the *Gewrite Landboc*, *Telligraphum* and *Chirographum* of the Saxon age.

John Collet was chaplain of the free chapel of St. Margaret, in 1508. He was then D. D. dean of St. Paul's, London, rector of Denington in Suffolk, &c. The income of this free ſchool is then ſaid to be

* A deed, to the ſame effect, was granted to the antient family of Hunter, of Polmood in Scotland.

be worth 50l. per ann. as appears from a rental of the dean's eſtate, ſpiritual and temporal; which was a very conſiderable ſum in that age, and almoſt equalled that great living (as Dr. Knight, in his life of this dean, calls it) of Denington, which is ſaid to be 31l.

This chapel being diſſolved by Edward VI. was in the fourth year of his reign, 1550, given with ſixty acres of land to Thomas Reve, and Giles Iſham, and their heirs, to be held of the manor of Eaſt Greenwich in Kent.

At this day it is called by the neighbouring people, the Pilgrims Chapel, being viſited moſt likely by them in their way to Walſingham, which lies through this town from London; there are ſaid to have been above an hundred acres of land in the fields of Hilburgh belonging to it, and no doubt was very nobly endowed, being formerly accounted a manor; and lands in the ſaid fields were held by the tenure of finding of wax tapers, &c. for the chapel, as appeared from an old field-book in the hands of Mr. Wace, formerly the owner thereof, who deviſed the ſame, together with ſundry meſſuages, lands, &c. in Hilburgh, to his daughter Dorothy, wife of Edward Bunting, gent. In the year 1767, the truſtees on behalf of her grandſon, Mr. Robert Bunting, appointed by an act of parliament then lately paſſed, ſold the ſame to the preſent poſſeſſor, Ralph Caldwell, eſq. 1779.

HOLM-HALE. In antient writings Holm and Hale appear not only to be two diſtinct lordſhips, but two diſtinct villages, and occur by the names of South-Holm juxta Hale, and Hale, or Hill-Hale, and on the union of theſe lordſhips, &c. under one and

and the ſame lord, obtained the name of Holm-Hale.

Holm Manor was ſo called from its low and moiſt ſituation, and land incloſed with water. By the inquiſitions taken in the 24th of Henry III. it appears that Giles de Hulmo was lord, who was ſon of ſir Robert de Hulmo, lord of Filby, and of this manor.

In the 20th of Edward III. Stephen de Titeſhale, and Richard de Burwood, were lords of the Fitz-Walter fee, held by Giles de Hulmo, and John Dodington, &c. held of Stephen, &c. what Oliva de Aula held; but about the end of this king's reign, both theſe tenures came into the family of Illey, lords of Hale.

Hale Manor. In the 24th of Henry III. the heirs of Edmund de Illey were found to hold in Hale, one knight's fee of the lord Fitz-Walter, and that lord of the king.

This lordſhip came into the family of the Jenneys in Suffolk, and from the Jenneys it came to the Bedingfields, and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, Anthony Bedingfield, eſq. third ſon of ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, was lord, which Anthony married Elizabeth, one of the daughters and coheirs of Ralph Danyel, of Swaffham, gent. and Anthony Bedingfield, of Teſterton in Norfolk, eſq. deſcended from the aforeſaid Anthony, died lord in 1707, whoſe ſon, Francis Bedingfield, ſold it to Henry Ibbot, of Swaffham, attorney; and his ſon, Benjamin Ibbot, eſq. a gentleman who acquired by his travels into foreign countries, and by making the tour of Europe, an excellent taſte, or what is now called

called *Hall*, and has been much eſteemed on that account, is the preſent lord.

The aforeſaid Danyel, held alſo a capital meſſuage here, called BERRER'S, or BURYS-HALL, which hall was purchaſed of the Bedingfields by the Eyres. In 1739, John Eyre, eſq. died, and it is at preſent enjoyed by John Daſhwood, eſq. of Cockley-Cley.

ELWYN'S, GROOSE'S, and WHITE'S MANOR, was annexed to the former lordſhip.

As here were formerly two capital lordſhips of Holm and Hale, ſo theſe lordſhips had for ſome time two churches to which they preſented: of the church of Holm, in the beginning of Edward I. ſir Robert de Hulmo was patron. This church is now united to Necton, and held by the Rev. Mr. William Young, of Swaffham, who has the advowſon of this living and Necton.

This rectory is valued in the king's books by the name of Holm Hale, alias Hale Brian, at 12l. 16s. 5d.

In 1752, the Rev. William Young was preſented to this rectory by Thomas Patrick Young, clerk.

The church of Holm-Hale is dedicated to St. Andrew, and was begun to be built in the reign of king Richard III.

HOUGHTON. This village lies on the eaſt ſide of the hundred, near to that of Weyland, and adjoining to North Pickenham, from which it is parted by a rivulet, that ariſes at Bradenham; it is ſituated on a riſing ground, and takes its name from its

its ſcite, *Houghton*, or *High-Town*, and is called Houghton on the Hill, to diſtinguiſh it from the other Houghton in this county.

At the conqueſt it became the lordſhip of Alan earl of Richmond, and Ribald lord of Middleham in Yorkſhire, brother to Alan, held it under him; and Ralph ſon of Robert, grandſon of Ribald, who was in ward of the biſhop of Canterbury, held this town, and the Pickenhams, in the reign of Richard I. it being then valued at 25l. per ann. This Ralph married Mary daughter of Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, and had a diſcharge by writ from half a knight's fee, in the 19th of king John, and held Houghton *in capite*. Ralph Fitz-Ralph, in the 50th of Henry III. would not permit the ſheriffs to enter into his manors in this county, which implies that he had return of writs therein himſelf.

He died in the 54th of that king, and his heart was buried at Richmond, (being founder of the Friars Minims there) where his wife Anaſtaſia was buried, but his body was buried at Coverham in Yorkſhire, in the monaſtery church there; and having no iſſue male, his eſtate was divided between his three daughters; and in the 55th of the ſaid king, the ſheriff of Norfolk gave an account of 11l. 15s. 8d. ob. of the iſſues of his lands in this town, &c. in Norfolk, before he delivered the third part thereof to Robert de Nevile, (who married Mary, the eldeſt daughter and co-heir, who had with her the honor and caſtle of Middleham in Yorkſhire, this manor, the Pickenhams, and other towns in Norfolk) and a part to Robert de Tateſhale, who married Joan, (who died without iſſue) and the other part remained in the king's hands, Anaſtaſia, the third daughter and co-heir, being under age; and this part Edward

the

the king's ſon ſeized into his hands, and gave it to Gilbert Hanſard.

This Robert de Nevile, was ſon of Robert de Nevile, lord of Raby, and lived about ten years her huſband; when he is ſaid to be inhumanly put to death, for his criminal converſation with a lady at Craven in Yorkſhire, and his lady lived about forty years his widow, and died in the 13th of Edward II. ſeiſed of this manor and the Pickenhams, &c. and left them to her ſon, Ralph, then aged forty years.

In this family it continued through many deſcents, who were earls of Weſtmoreland, and ſir George, third ſon to Ralph earl of Weſtmoreland, being called to parliament by the title of lord Latimer, married Elizabeth daughter of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick. This lord in his latter days was an ideot, and his lands were granted in cuſtody to Richard Nevile, the great earl of Warwick, and died in the 9th of Edward IV. ſeiſed of this manor, both the Pickenhams, Fouldon and Carbroke, Woodhall, &c. all which deſcended to ſir Richard Nevile, knt. his grandſon, and heir by ſir Henry Nevile, lord Latimer, his only ſon, who was killed at Edgcote Field, in the ſame year that his father died, and a little before his father, having married a daughter of the lord Berners, by whom he had the ſaid ſir Richard, who had not livery of his lands till the 6th of Henry VII. though he was in arms for that king at Stoke-battle; he married Ann daughter of Humphrey Stafford, of Grafton, eſq. and died the 22d of Henry VIII. leaving by her John lord Latimer, his ſon, &c. who was in the rebellion called the Pilgrimage of Grace, in that king's reign; which John married for his ſecond wife Catherine daughter of ſir Thomas Parr (his firſt wife being Dorothy daughter

ter of the earl of Oxford) which ſaid Catherine was afterwards married to Henry VIII. by whoſe intereſt moſt likely John his ſon had livery of this manor and North Pickenham, in the 35th of Henry VIII. (his father John died about the ſame time) together with the manors of Danby, Thornton, Snape, Welle, &c. in Yorkſhire; Corby, Burton, Latimers, &c. in Northamptonſhire; Compton and Norris, in Berkſhire; Wadburgh, in Worceſterſhire; Warcup, in Weſtmoreland; and as heir to the earl of Oxford, of Barton Bendiſh, Illington, Weeting, Sandringham, Knapton, Middleton, Scales Hoo, Tittleſhall, Babingly, Wolferton, Fittons in Wiggenhall, Toftrees, and Eaſt Winch, in Norfolk; Brookhall, Holbrooke, Chelleſworth, Walſham, and Preſton, in Suffolk; Kenſington, in Middleſex; Bures Marks or Bevers Marks, in London; Oldhall in Wethersfield, in Eſſex; Sawſton, Haukeſton, and Dullingham, in Cambridgeſhire; Stoney Stratford, in Warwickſhire; Calverton, in Bucks; Wygeſton, in Leiceſterſhire; and Tredeneke in Cornwall.

This John lived till the 20th of Queen Elizabeth, but had no iſſue male by Lucy daughter of Henry earl of Worceſter, ſo that by the marriage of his four daughters and co-heirs, his eſtate was divided.

Katherine, the firſt daughter, was married to Henry earl of Northumberland; Dorothy, the ſecond, to Thomas earl of Exeter; Lucy, the third, to Sir William Cornwallis, anceſtor to the preſent lord Cornwallis; Elizabeth, the fourth, to ſir John Danvers, knt. from whom is deſcended the preſent duke of Leeds, viſcount Latimer.

Soon after the death of this laſt lord Latimer, this lordſhip came into the family of the Bedingfields, of

of Oxburgh, and Edmund Bedingfield, Eſq. as lord and patron, preſented to this church in 1558; and in this family it continued till it was ſold by ſir Henry Bedingfield, bart. to Henry Eyre, eſq. of Bury's-Hall, about the year 1720, and John Eyre, eſq. his brother, ſold it to Mr. Penſon, of London.

The Church is a ſingle building of flint, &c. and dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin; in length about 27 feet, and about 18 in breadth, and is cover'd with reed. At the weſt end ſtands a ſmall four-ſquare tower of flint and brick, and on the top is a little cap of wood cover'd with lead. In this tower hangs one bell. At the eaſt of this nave is the chancel, ſeparated by a gable or wall, near a yard thick, through which is an arch about twelve feet in heighth, and ſix in breadth, which leads into the chancel, which ſeems to be much more antique than the body and tower; it is in length about twenty-ſix feet, and of equal breadth with the body,

This rectory is valued at 4l. 18s. 9d. in the king's books, and was conſolidated with North Pickenham, February 27, 1747.

In 1719 Waters Rolf was preſented to this rectory by Sir Ralph Hare, bart.

At the death of Rolf, the late Rev. Mr. Say reſigned the vicarage of Swaffham, and held this conſolidated rectory by union with Beachamwell, he being both rector and patron, in September 1749.

The truſtees of Mr. Penſon, of London, ſold the advowſons of North Pickenham and Houghton to Mr. Say; and in 1764 the Rev. Robert Say, jun. as patron for this turn, preſented himſelf to the rectory.

LANGFORD.

LANGFORD. This town has its name from its long ford over the adjoining river.

In 1626 Thomas Methwold, Esq. was lord.

Afterwards this lordship was sold to Thomas Garrard of London, salter, who was lord in 1648. He married Ann daughter of Francis Jacob, of Creeting, in Suffolk, and was buried in the church of Gracechurch street, London; was son of John Gerrard, of Barking, in Essex, and by Ann his wife had Jacob Garrard, of this town, created a baronet August 16, 1662, who married Mary, daughter of Ambrose Jennings, of London, gent. by whom he had sir Thomas Garrard, bart. who married Sarah, daughter of Nicholas Berman, of Peasonhale, in Suffolk, and had by her Jacob Garrard, of Langford, esq. who died before his father, and left by Abigail his wife, daughter of Sir John Holland, of Quidenham, bart. two daughters; Alathea, married to Sir Francis Bickley, bart of Attleburgh, in Norfolk, by whom there is no issue, and Sarah, married to Charles, third son of sir George Downing, of East Hatley, in Cambridgeshire, bart. so that this lordship came to sir Nicholas Garrard, bart. second son to sir Thomas, who married Cecilia, daughter of sir Edwin Steed, of Steed's-hall, in Kent, who died in 1727, without issue; and sir Jacob Garrard Downing, bart. and knight of the Bath, succeeded to the lordship, and his legatees enjoyed it, and sold Langford about the year 1750 to Henry Ord, esq. of the Exchequer, (his brother, Robert Ord, was late lord chief baron of Scotland) whose son, about 1775, sold the same to George Nelson, esq. son of George Nelson, esq. late lord mayor of London, and he is the present owner thereof.

Here

Here is now only the manor-houſe ſtanding, a large, good building of brick, and now turned into a farm-houſe, to which was a park adjoining.

The church of Langford is dedicated to St. Andrew, and ſtands near to the manor-houſe, on the weſt ſide of it, and is an ancient fabrick of flint, as appears from the old Gothic arch over the ſouth door, and from the arch that divides the church from the chancel: it is a ſingle building, covered with tiles, as the chancel is.

On a black marble on the pavement—*Here lieth the body of Sir Nicholas Garrard, Bart. who died the 11th of March, Anno Dni.* 1727.

Againſt the north wall of the chancel is a very large and coſtly monument of marble and alabaſter, raiſed altar-wiſe, and with a back or wall-piece; on the body of it lies on a matt the effigy of ſir Nicholas Garrard in full proportion, on his right ſide, and leaning on his right hand, in the dreſs and habit of an old Roman; at his back is a pedeſtal, and on that an urn, with a flame, &c. On each ſide of this pedeſtal ſtands an effigy in full length, &c. of alabaſter, the one of ſir Jacob, the other of ſir Thomas Garrard, barts. both in the aforeſaid dreſs. On the pedeſtal is this inſcription:

Near this place lye interr'd the Remains of Sir Jacob Garrard, (eldeſt ſon and heir of Thomas Garrard, Eſq; an eminent, wealthy, and honourable Citizen) the honour of Knighthood was conferred upon him by his pious and royal maſter King Charles I. in the year 1641, *and by King Charles II. he was created a Baronet in the year* 1662, *having aided and aſſiſted the Royal Family with Men, Money and Arms, in their Diſtreſs and Exile, for*

which he became obnoxious to the Uſurpers of Authority, and was try'd by the Committee for raiſing Supplies as a Delinquent, but nobly defended both his Life and Eſtate with unſhaken Reſolution and ſtedfaſt Loyalty. He departed this Life in September 1666, *having eternized his memory by living acts of Charity, continued Acknowledgments for the Mercy of God received in his Deliverance. He married Mary Jennings, a Lady of exemplary Piety and Virtue, by whom he had many Children, ſeveral of which died young, four only ſurviving, Thomas, Jacob, Iſaac and Mary; the eldeſt ſon Thomas ſucceeded his Father in Honour and Eſtate, the two younger married, but left no ſurviving Iſſue; Mary, the Daughter, married with Richard Berney, of Reedham in the County of Norfolk, Eſq;*

On the baſis of the monument, under the figure of ſir Nicholas, ſir Thomas Garrard, bart. lies, as alſo doth Sarah his wife near this place: ſhe was the only daughter and heireſs of Nicholas Bermen, of Peaſon-hall in the county of Suffolk, gent. by whom he had nine children, four ſons and five daughters; ſix of them, viz. two ſons and four daughters, dying in their minority, were likewiſe buried here, and two ſons and a daughter, viz. Jacob, Nicholas, and Mary ſurvived. Mary married Samuel Kerridge, of Shelley-hall in the county of Suffolk, eſq. ſhe departed this life in April 1702, and is likewiſe interred in this chancel. Jacob, the eldeſt, married Abigail, daughter of ſir John Holland, of Quiddenham in this county, bart. by whom he had ſeveral children, who all died infants, except only two daughters, Alathea married to ſir Francis Bickley, of Attleborough in this county, bart. by whom ſhe had ſeveral children, who all died young; and Sarah, married to Charles Downing, eſq. comptroller of his majeſty's cuſtoms, third ſon of ſir George Downing,

ing, of Eaſt Hatley in the county of Cambridge, knight and baronet, by Frances Howard, granddaughter of the Right Hon. the lord William Howard, of Naworth in the county of Cumberland, by him the ſaid Sarah hath had ſeveral children, of which the only ſurvivor is Jacob-Garrard Downing, eſq. Jacob Garrard died in the life-time of his father ſir Thomas Garrard, and is, with his deceaſed children, interred in this chancel.

Here likewiſe is depoſited the body of ſir Nicholas Garrard, bart. third ſon of ſir Thomas Garrard; he ſucceeded his father in title and eſtate, lived infinitely beloved, and died equally lamented without iſſue, the 11th of March, anno Domini 1727, leaving behind him his diſconſolate widow, dame Cecilia Garrard, only daughter of ſir Edwin Stede, of Stede-hall in the county of Kent, by Cecilia, daughter of ſir William Clard, of Ford in Wreatham, in the ſame county, whoſe dame Cecilia Garrard, to perpetuate the memory of her dear and entirely beloved huſband, together with his worthy anceſtors, hath in duty and reſpect, as much as in obedience to his deſire, cauſed this monument to be erected.

This place being adorned with the inſignia, &c. of Richard Garrard, it is worthy notice what Burton obſerves, p. 97, that a ſword was hung up in the church at the funeral of a knight, and not of any perſon under that degree, becauſe knights at their firſt dubbing did in former times take an oath to defend religion and the church, and in memorial of that, this weapon was allowed to be hung up there.

The lady Wiche brought an action in the King's Bench againſt the parſon of St. Margaret's church in Lothbury, London, for that the ſaid parſon had

taken away a coat armour and certain penons, with the arms of sir Hugh Wiche, her husband, (once lord mayor of London, who died the 7th of Edward IV.) and a sword out of the chapel where he was buried: the parson pleading that these arms, &c. were matters of offering and oblations, and therefore of right did belong to him: but justice Yelverton held it as no plea, and that they are not intended as offerings or oblations, but were hung up in honor of the deceased, and therefore do not belong to the parson. And if the parson has not a right to take these down in his chancel when once hung up, no other person can lay any pretence or claim to them.

This rectory is valued at 4l. 15s. 10d. and the Rev. Thomas Bateman was presented to it in 1758, with the consolidated parish of Ickborough.

NARBURGH, or NARBOROUGH, is so called from its scite, the river Nar running on the north side of it.

This rivulet hath had more monasteries and religious places upon it, than any we know of, viz. Castleacre abbey or priory, Westacre priory, Southacre free chapel or chauntry, the free chapel of sir Thomas Becket by Westacre, Pentney priory, Marham abbey, Wormegay priory, Shouldham abbey or priory, Narford hermitage, Setchy hermitage, &c.

Sir Henry Spelman, in his Icenia, page 142, relates that John Brame, a monk of Thetford, who lived in the reign of Henry IV. in a MSS. History, (quoted frequently by Dr. Caius in his History of Cambridge) maintains Narburgh to have been a city in the time of Uter Pendagron, king of Britain, about the year 500, governed by earl Okenard, that it was besieged



B. Reading sculp.

Sir HENRY SPELMAN, Kn.

of Narburgh.

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beſieged ſeven months by Waldy, a king in the neighbourhood, who on the taking it, entirely raſed it. Though this account may favour too much of the cloiſter, it is evident that it was a place of eminence in the Saxon age, from its name, and the works adjoining to it.

At this time, a curious large military foſs or ditch, with its mound, runs from this town to Beacham-well and Berton, Eaſtmore fen-ground; by this entrenchment the hundred of Clackcloſe was ſo well ſecured, that no paſſage or entrance could be into it but by admiſſion here, or over the rivers Ouſe, Wiſſey and Nar, which ſurrounded the other parts of it. At the head of this foſs, near to Narburgh hall, was a lofty artificial hill, ſerving as a fort or encampment; at the foot of this hill, about the year 1600, ſeveral human bones, and pieces of armour, were dug up, ſir Clement Spelman then making a garden there.

This hill was called in evidences the Burgh, or Burrow, and the lands round it retain that name.

From a ſurvey in Mundeford Spelman's time, "Lower Burrow contains ten acres, and is bounded "eaſt by Narford, north by the river, and ſouth by "the Middle Burrow, which contains ſix acres, the "Upper Burrow contains ſeven acres and abutts "north on Middle Burrow eaſt, on the field, ſouth "by the old nurſery, and weſt by the hall walk." So that the ſcite of the manor is very near, and juſt under the antient burgh or fortification.

It was a mile long, and ten furlongs broad, and was always valued at 8l.

The family of Narburgh took their name from the town, and were ſoon after the conqueſt lords of it.

From the Narburghs, after long proceſs of time, and a very uncertain deſcent of heirs, it came to the Spelmans, a very antient family, and the preſent Rev. Henry Spelman, vicar of this pariſh, and younger ſon of John Spelman, eſq. ſold it to Henry Daſhwood, eſq. nephew and heir to the late ſir Thomas Peyton, bart. who has taken the name of Peyton according to his uncle's will, and has ſince his deceaſe been created a baronet by the preſent king Aug. 24, 1776.

Westacre Manor, was in the Spelmans, and now in ſir Henry Peyton.

Grade's Manor, was alſo in the Spelmans.

The ancient ſeat of the Spelmans ſtands about a furlong eaſt of the church, and is called Narburgh-hall: it is for the moſt part built of ſtone and brick, and has had a moat about it: it was erected by judge Spelman in the time of Henry VIII.

The name and family of Spelman is of great antiquity.

That great antiquary, and moſt learned knight, ſir Henry Spelman, an honour to the college where he was educated, as alſo to the town and county he was born in, was of this family: his *Gloſſary; Hiſtory of Sacrilege*; *Treatiſe de non temerandis Eccleſijs*, and other numerous valuable works, will ſhew poſterity his great learning; his *Icenia*, or *Hiſtory of Norfolk*, which he intended, was the firſt deſign of that

that kind in relation to this county, and great pity it is, that all his collections on that subject, except the fragment of that name published in his posthumous works, should be dissipated and lost; but to rescue his person from the same fate, the editors of this work have here inserted his likeness, taken from an original picture painted in his own time, in honour of him who was so useful a member to his country, and so great a promoter of the laudable study of the general antiquities of the kingdom, and the particular ones of this his native county: he was sheriff of Norfolk in 1605, and died at London in 1641, having married Eleanor, eldest daughter and co-heir of John L'Estrange, of Sedgeford in this county, esq. by whom he had sir John Spelman, of Heydon in this county, who died at Oxford in 1643, and married Ann, daughter of sir John Townshend, of Rainham.

The church of Narburgh is dedicated to All Saints, and has a nave, a north and a south aile, and a chancel built of flint, &c. the nave is in length about sixty feet, and about thirty in breadth, including both the ailes, and is covered with reed. The chancel, two ailes, south porch, and north vestry, are all covered with lead. This nave, or body, is of great antiquity.

In the church are the arms of a great many persons of consequence, formerly in this county.

The north aile, of different form and workmanship from the nave, is not above half the length of it: this is an additional building, and not so antique as the body of the church: ailes, as may be seen from old wills, were frequently added to the nave or body of churches by religious, devout persons, and

were particular chapels or oratories diſtinct from the church, and dedicated to ſome ſaint; here the founder and his family were generally buried, and chauntries were frequently kept, and ſome prieſt or prieſts had annual penſions to officiate and ſing maſs for the ſouls departed of the founder and his family; ſometimes they were founded by ſome ſociety or fraternity of perſons, called in thoſe days a gild, who alſo had their prieſts to officiate in the ſame manner for thoſe of their ſociety.

A braſs plate under two portraitures;—*To John Eyer, Eſq. receiver-general to queen Elizabeth in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge and Huntingdon, and a maſter of the high court of Chancery; obit May* 20, 1561; *and to his wife Margaret, daughter of ſir Thomas Bleverhaiſet, knt. of Irens; obit Dec.* 15, 1558.

This John Eyer, as ſir Henry Spelman obſerves in his *Hiſtory of Sacrilege*, p. 247, was a great purchaſer of religious houſes that were diſſolved by king Henry VIII. and bought of that king the Friars Carmelites, the Grey Friars, the Friars Preachers, or Black Friars, and the Auguſtine Friars at Lynn, &c. he was poſſeſſed alſo of Bury abbey, and died without iſſue.

On the pavement near to this monument lies a marble grave-ſtone, and a braſs plate,—*To Elizabeth Goldyngham, wife of John Goldyngham, Eſq; who died the 4th day of February*, 1556; and a ſhield, Goldyngham impaling Spelman.

At the eaſt end of the nave ſtands the chancel, in length about thirty feet, and in breadth about eighteen, of the ſame materials with the church. On the

the pavement of this chancel lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones, near the eaſt end are theſe, Spelman, Branthwayte—*To Mundeford Spelman, Eſq; who died Jan. 30, 1723. By Julian his wife, daughter of William Branthwayte, of Hethel, Eſq; he left iſſue three ſons and one daughter.*

There are mural monuments in memory of many of the ancient and reſpectable family of Spelman, and of other families, which we have neither room nor inclination to inſert here.

At the eaſt end of the north part of the chancel is a ſmall arch in the wall, about ſeven feet from the ground, and in it lies a demi-ſtatue of a lady carved out of ſtone, and coup'd at the middle in miniature, being but about a foot long; her head-dreſs ſeems very antique; her hands are conjoined on her breaſt, holding a heart, and ſhe reſts on her back; within the arch againſt the wall, is this inſcription only in Saxon characters, in letters of gold,

DOMINA : AGATHA : A : NARBOROUGH.

And on each ſide of this, the arms of Narburgh.

This is a piece of great antiquity, and this lady is ſaid to have died in 1293, and probably the date was formerly inſcribed here, for in an old MSS. of monuments, collected about the reign of queen Elizabeth, it is mentioned in this manner, *Dna' Agatha Narborough obijt* 1293.

In the reign of Edward I. the prior and convent of Weſt-acre in Norfolk, held two parts of the great tithes appropriated to them; the third part, or portion,

rion, was then in the patronage of Adam Bigot, and to this there was a rector inſtituted.

In 1514, the rector was alſo vicar of Narburgh, to which vicarage this portion was now conſolidated, and on the diſſolution of Weſtacre priory, the whole came into the king's hands, and was given to the Spelmans; and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, John Spelman had it, paying 4l. per ann. to the crown: he became the impropriator of the whole rectory, and Mundeford Spelman, eſq. about the year 1680, gave unto Mr. Carlton, then vicar of Narburgh, all his impropriated tithes of the ſaid pariſh, and ſettled them upon him and his ſucceſſors for ever; which impropriated tithes, at an eaſy compoſition, are ſaid to be worth 60l. per ann. of which the far greateſt part is paid out of the lands of the ſaid worthy donor, which he hath in the ſaid pariſh.

The vicars of Narburgh, in 1308, were preſented by the convent of Weſtacre, and nominated by the biſhop of Norwich, as they all were to the diſſolution in 1535, when the patronage was in the crown.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 9l. 10s.

The Rev. Henry Spelman, the preſent vicar, has built an elegant houſe, though ſmall, as a vicarage houſe, and which is much admired for its neatneſs and ſituation: he was preſented to this church, with Narford, by the late John Spelman, eſq. in 1753.

At the eaſt end of the church-yard are the foundations of a dilapidated chapel, about thirty yards diſtant from the chancel's end. It was twelve yards long and eight wide.

NARFORD.

NARFORD. This village takes its name from the ford or paſſage over the river Nar, on the ſouth ſide of which it ſtands. In the grand ſurvey it is called Nereforda. Phanceon was then the lord of it, being part of the honour, and held of Alan, earl of Richmond: In the Confeſſor's time Alfach, a Saxon, was the owner of it; there were then three carucates in domain, and the ſame at the ſurvey, and ſix carucates held by the tenants, and four freemen held one carucate of land; there was one mill and the moiety of another, and a fiſhery, &c. and was a mile in length, and as much in breadth, and paid at the laſt ſurvey 5l. per annum.

NARFORD, alias OLDHALL MANOR. Phanceon, who was lord at the ſurvey, was moſt probably the anceſtor of the noble family of Narford: He or his immediate deſcendent might take up that ſurname from this his lordſhip, as was the common and general practice of that age, derived from the Normans. That the family of Narford had lands here, and in Norfolk, nigh to the time of the great ſurvey, appears from antient record.

In 1274 Sir William de Narford was lord, and had free warren not only in his domain lands, but of thoſe of other men in this town, which were held of the honour of Richmond, and the bailiffs of the earl of Richmond kept the lete.

This Sir William married Petronilla, one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir John de Vallibus, or Vaux, who brought a very conſiderable eſtate to this family, and was one of thoſe great men who were ſummoned to attend Edward I. at Portſmouth, in an expedition to Gaſcoigne, in his 22d year, to recover that

that province, and was in that year, and in the 25th of the ſaid king, called to parliament as a baron.

In 1334, Edward III. granted to Sir Thomas de Narford a market and two fairs at Narford.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Edmund Oldhall held here half a fee of the honour of Richmond. This family gave name to this manor, though their intereſt herein was ſhort, for in the 2d of Henry IV. John Crocket was lord of the manor of Oldhall.

In the 14th of Queen Elizabeth, Richard Beckham had livery of the manors of Narford, called Cockets, and that called Crofts; and John Beckham, eſq. died about 1658, lord of the ſame. He had licence on the 7th of April, in the 7th of Charles I. to alienate the manors of Narford and Sawtrey to Martin Southouſe, gent.

Westacre Manor was in the priory of Weſtacre, and the prior in 1345 paid 20s. for the aid then aſſeſſed.

On the diſſolution of the priory it came to the crown, and was granted on the 6th of January, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, to ſir Thomas Greſham, founder of the Royal Exchange at London, to be held in Knight's ſervice in capite; about the 26th of Elizabeth, ſir Henry Nevile, couſin and heir in right of his wife to the aforeſaid Knight, had livery of it.

Narford was lately the property of ſir Andrew Fountaine, knt. and now of his heir Brigg Price Fountaine, eſq. Sir Andrew built the manſion-houſe, called Narford-hall, and reſided there to his death: It is a ſeat

ſeat enriched with many curioſities, many valuable coins, an admired collection of pictures, urns, and other pieces of antiquity. Sir Andrew was celebrated for his great taſte by Mr. Pope, and he is ſaid to have purchaſed for ſir Robert Walpole ſome of the fineſt paintings at Houghton. This ſeat is as well deſerving the viſit of a curious traveller as any in the county of Norfolk, and in general indeed it is viſited by ſtrangers who make the tour of this county. From the appearance of the front of the houſe, which is not extenſive, the many inſide apartments ſtrike the obſerver with ſurprize, as they ſeem to grow up inſenſibly to his obſervation, and he rather wonders where they riſe from. There is a very valuable library, many of the books rare and of great curioſity, and the room is adorned with many capital pictures.

The family of Fountaine was originally of Sall in Norfolk, and aſſumed the ſurname of De Fonte, or Fontibus, from the ſprings or fountains that they dwelled by.

The houſe, ſays a modern traveller, is a good one, but not the object of view ſo much as the curioſities it contains, amongſt which, nothing is more ſtriking than the cabinet of earthen ware, done after the deſigns of Raphael; there is a great quantity of it, and all extremely fine. The collection of antique urns, vaſes, ſphinxes, &c. is reckoned a good one; but what gives more pleaſure than the venerable remains of this kind, is a ſmall modern ſleeping Venus in white marble, by Delveau; which in female ſoftneſs and delicacy is exceedingly beautiful. The bronzes are very fine.

Paintings,

Paintings, Bustos, &c. at Narford.

In the Hall.

At the eaſt end, a picture repreſenting the delivery of Achilles, by his mother Thetis, to the centaur Chiron, for education.

On the north ſide, Europa carried by Jupiter, under the form of a bull, over the Helleſpont.

Next the chimney, Arachne turned into a ſpider by Minerva.

On the left of the chimney, Narciſſus.

On the ſouth ſide, the centaur Neſſus carrying away Dejanira, the wife of Hercules.

Over the door to the eaſt, Suſanna and the two elders.

Its companion, Angelica and Medar, from Taſſo.

Over the door to the north, the death of Lucretia.

Over the door to the weſt, Sophoniſba poiſoning herſelf. Theſe are by Pelegrini.

Over the chimney, a portrait of lord Burlington, who made ſir Andrew Fountaine a preſent of theſe pictures.

On the table next the chimney, a buſto of the emperor Hadrianus.

On each ſide two antique ſphinxs.

On the other table, a ſleeping Venus, very fine, by Monſieur Delveau.

On the ſtair-caſe are the portraits of the reigning princes of England, beginning at the top with king James I. down to king George II. by different hands.

A Dutch market, the figures by Rubens, and the fruit by Snyders, very fine.

Some antique buſtos and relievos.

The

The Billiard Room.

To the north, the large picture repreſenting the marriage of the Sea at Venice, an annual ceremony, after Tintorett.

St. Thomas with a dead Chriſt, in the manner of A. Duror.

On each ſide the door, two landſcapes repreſenting the good Samaritan, by Sebaſtian Burdon.

Under the large picture, a landſcape, by Roſa de Tivoli.

A Dutch fair, after Wouvermans.

A landſcape, the journey into the Wilderneſs from Egypt, by Berghem.

On the eaſt ſide, Danae and the golden ſhower, after Titian, by Pouſſin.

On each ſide, two ſea pieces, by Van Veld.

Dutch boors, by Hemſkirk.

The inſide of the church at Antwerp, by Teniſ.

Three cupids in a chariot drawn by doves, by Albano.

A piece of architecture.

A Dutch piece, by Hemſkirk.

A landſcape.

Over the door on the left hand, a muſician, after Mola.

Over ditto on the right, Glaucus, and Scylla, by Salvator Roſa.

Titus's arch, by N. Pouſſin.

A fine landſcape with cattle, by Tintoretto.

Over it, a battle piece, by Mich. Angelo della Battaglia.

A fine whole length of Mary de Medicis, by C. Janſen.

In the bed-chamber next the painter's room. Two landſcapes in the ſtyle of Huiſman of Mechlin.

On

On the Stair Case.

A piece of ſculpture of Prometheus chained to a rock, by Cavalier David.

A fine head of a boy, antique.

Several antique ſtatues.

In the Dining Parlour.

Over the chimney, a bas relievo of the Roman charity, by Camillo Roſconi.

Three antique buſts.

On the right of the chimney, a portrait of a Dutch burgo-maſter, by Simon de Vos.

On the left of ditto, a portrait of Sir T. Chicely, maſter of the ordnance, by Dobſon.

On the ſouth ſide, behind the door, a portrait of the earl of Portland, when ambaſſador in France, by Rigeau.

A portrait of a Duke of Richmond, of the Stewart family, by A. Vandyck.

On the right of the door, a portrait of a lady, by Cornelius Janſen.

Its companion, a portrait of ſir Henry Spelman, by ditto.

The little withdrawing Room.

On the right hand of the door, a Holy Family, by Titian.

Over it, a portrait of a youth, by ſir Peter Lely.

Over the chimney, a portrait of Vandyck, by himſelf.

On the north ſide, Galatea, after Raphael, by Andrea Sacchi.

Two landſcapes, by old Brueghel.

On the left of the door, to the north, the death of Abſalom, by M. Angelo della Battaglia.

A picture

A picture of horſes, by Wouvermans.

St. Jerome, in the ſtile of Titian.

To the weſt, on the right of the window, a Madona, by Andrea Schiavoni.

Below it, a view of Boxhill, near Epſom, by Wyk.

On the right of the door, the angel and Tobit, by Lanfranc.

In the Cloſet

Is a very curious collection of earthen ware, painted from the deſigns of Raphael Urbino, John d'Udina, &c. It is the largeſt collection in England.

Blue Drawing Room.

Over the chimney, a fine picture of the children of Iſrael gathering manna, by A. Bloemart.

The marriage in Cana, by old Franks.

Behind the door, a bravo, by Spagriolet,

An old woman, by M. A. Caravagio.

A portrait of Rambeot, a diſciple of Rubens, by himſelf. ſcarce.

Julius Cæſar, and its companion, an emblem of victory, by Julio Romano, out of the collection of king Charles I.

Two landſcapes, hand unknown.

A very fine picture of ſpaniels, by Fyt.

A bull hunting, its companion, by Roſa di Tivoli.

A fine picture of the Holy Family, by Andrea del Sarto.

A Bacchus, by Poſſin

A portrait, by Vandyck.

Underneath, on the right, an uſurer and lady, by Rembrandt.

The interview of king Henry VIII. and Ann of Cleves, by H. Holbein, or John of Mabuſe.

Over the door, St. John in the Wilderneſs, by Annibal Caracci.

A young Roman, by M. Ang. Caravaggio.

A flower piece, by old Baptiſt.

Stucco Dining-Room,

Is hung with family pictures.

The Picture Cloſet.

Apollo and Daphne, by Simone Memmi, a diſciple of Giotto.

On the right, at the top, a Madona and Child, by Albert Durer.

Ditto, its companion, by a ſcholar of Raphael Urbino.

Part of the Holy Family, by Vanderwerf.

Its companion, ditto, by Carlo Maratti.

At the bottom, on the right, a Holy Family, by Le Loire.

In the middle, Corregio's family, by Corregio.

Its companion, a Holy Family, hand unknown.

On the left, Moſes found by Pharaoh's daughter, by Tintoretto.

The crucifixion, by Magnaſci.

A head of Rubens's wife, by Rubens.

The adoration of the ſhepherds, in the ſtile of Corregio.

In the middle, the aſcenſion, by Solimeni.

On the left, the converſion of St. Paul on marble, by Pietro Cantarini.

Two old men, by Quintin Matſys of Antwerp.

Two battle pieces, by Burgigoni.

On the left, our Saviour curing the blind, by Old Franks.

A Colombine and Pierot, by Vatteau.

A landſcape, by Woovermans.

A Ma-

A Madona, by Carlo Dolci.

A Flemiſh merry-making, by P. Angelles.

The death of St. Sebaſtian, by Tintoretto.

On the weſt ſide, at the top, two fine landſcapes, by Salvator Roſa.

In the middle, our Saviour in the garden, by P. le Genoeſe.

On the left, a Holy Family, by Schidoni.

On the right, two cupids, by N. Pouſſin.

A head of old Dobſon on paper, by Dobſon.

On the right hand, Euridice wounded by a ſerpent, by Poelenburch.

On the left, the feaſt of St. Cæcilia, on marble, by Van Balen.

Two boys heads, by Francis Hals.

Three children of the earl of Dorſet's, by H. Holbein.

A Bacchanalian, by Pelegrini.

A Sacrifice, by J. Ricci.

In the Dreſſing-Room.

To the eaſt, Galatea, by Ricci.

Two views of Venice, by Cagnaletti.

A cupid, by Joſeppi Chiari.

The labourers in the vineyard, by Domenico Fetti, very fine.

Over the cabinet, a ſacrifice, by N. Pouſſin.

Its companion, by ditto.

Moſes found by Pharaoh's daughter, by Pelegrini.

The Library

Is forty feet by twenty-one; in it are ſeveral antique Roman and Egyptian vaſes.

The Library Cloſet.

To the eaſt, the middle picture is St. Cæciiia, a copy from a picture by Carlo Maratti, in the collection of the earl of Orford, by J. Davis, eſq. of Watlington.

On each ſide, two pictures, by Pietro di Pietris.

A veſtal virgin, by J. Raoux.

A Holy Family, by N. Beretoni.

On each ſide, two Holy Families, by Carlo Maratti.

Over the chimney are ſeveral antique bronzes.

The Apollo with the golden drapery is antique.

A veſtal virgin, by Carlo Maratti.

The library, which is every way beautifully fitted up, and well filled with books of true value, and ſome of great curioſity, hath alſo the pictures of the following famous men.

1. Titian.
2. Aretin.
3. Inigo Jones.
4. Palladius.
5. Laniere.
6. Reubens.
7. Dr. Aldridge.
8. Earl of Montroſs.
9. Guſtavus Adolphus.
10. Alexander Septimus.
11. Prince Rupert.
12. Sir Kenelm Digby.
13. Sir John Maynard.
14. Admiral Blake.
15. Dr. Prideaux.
16. Cornelius Janſen.
17. Waller.
18. Dr. Pocock.
19. Ben Johnſon.
20. William Shakeſpeare.
21. Cardinal Mazarine.
22. Marſhall Turenne.
23. Butler.
24. C. Cotton.
25. Cowley.
26. Duke of Devonſhire.
27. Archbiſhop Tillotſon.
28. Earl of Pembroke.
29. Dr. Wallis.
30. Dr. Mead.
31. Dr. Ratcliff.

The

The firſt of the family of the Fountaines lived in the reign of Henry III. about the year 1265.

After many generations and different heirs in the ſame family, lived John eldeſt ſon of Arthur Fountaine, of Sall: he married Mary daughter and heireſs of James Brigge, of Sall, in whoſe right this family have ever ſince quartered the arms of Brigge

Brigg Fountaine, eſq. died in 1661, and by Joanna eldeſt ſiſter of Robert Henley, eſq. he had Andrew Fountaine, eſq. who married Sarah eldeſt daughter of ſir Thomas Chicheley, who lies interred in a vault at the eaſt end of the ſouth aile of Narford church, and a mural monument againſt the ſouth wall there, is thus inſcribed:

" In the vault adjoining lies the body of An-
" drew Fountaine, of Sall in this county, eſq. who
" died the 7th of October, 1661, and of Joanna
" Henly, eldeſt ſiſter of Robert Henly, Eſq; who
" ſucceeded the duke of Buckingham in the maſter-
" ſhip of the King's-Bench office: the ſaid Andrew
" ſerved in three ſeveral ſeſſions of parliament in the
" reign of king Charles II. He married Sarah
" Chichely, youngeſt daughter of ſir Thomas Chi-
" chely, maſter of the ordnance, chancellor of the
" dutchye of Lancaſter, and privy councellour to
" king Charles and James II. by whom he had ſe-
" veral children, and left ſurviving, ſir Andrew,
" Brig, and Elizabeth, ob. 1m° Februarij 1706, Æt.
" LXXIV."

Elizabeth, ſiſter of ſir Andrew, married colonel Edward Clent, of Knightwick in Worceſterſhire, afterwards of Norfolk, by whom he left one only daughter,

Elizabeth, married to capt. William Price, who left only one ſon, the preſent Brigg Fountaine, eſq. and is interred in the family vault at Narford.

Brigg Fountaine, eſq. ſerved the office of high ſheriff for this county in the year 1775.

Sir Andrew Fountaine died at Narford, and was interred in the family vault. He was eſteemed to be one of the politeſt and beſt bred men of his age, and was remarkably neat in his perſon.

January 15, 1725, John Anſtis, Carter King at arms, by order of George I. granted by patent to ſir Andrew Fountaine, knt. then vice-chamberlain to the princeſs of Wales and tutor to his highneſs prince William, for whom he was inſtalled (as proxy) Knight of the honourable order of the Bath, ſupporters to his arms, viz. on either ſide a lion gul. with wings erected or, with the old family motto, *VIX. EA. NOSTRA. VOCO*, and the ancient arms of Fountaine, or, a feſs gul. between three elephants heads eraſed ſab.

The Romans appear to have had a ſtation at this place, many Roman bricks being found by the workmen about the hall, and ſir Andrew Fountaine dug up a Roman vaſe in the hall-yard.

There was alſo a chapel here formerly, for many human bones, and a ſtone coffin were dug up: this was the cell and chapel of ſome hermit, for they generally choſe their ſtation near ſome frequented road or paſſage over a river, as this was.

This

This village now conſiſts of but two or three houſes, beſides the hall; but that it was conſiderable in the reign of Edward III. appears from his grant of a market and two fairs here to ſir Thomas de Nerford, and the court-rolls of the manor in the reign of Henry VI. ſhew that there were then above one hundred dwelling-houſes, beſides an hamlet called Cuſthorpe, or Cowſthorpe, ſituated in the meadows, near the river towards Weſt-acre; and mention of it is made in the 7th of Charles I.

The church of Narford is a ſmall regular building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, conſiſting of a nave, a north and ſouth aile, with a chancel, all covered with lead; and at the weſt end of the nave ſtands a four-ſquare tower, with three bells, on which ſir Andrew Fountaine erected a ſpire of wood and painted, with a weather-cock and ball, gilt. The ſouth porch is tiled.

At the weſt end of the nave lies a grave-ſtone, having a croſs pattee carved on the ſummit of a ſtaff, the inſignia of ſome Knight Templar.

In the chancel, under the north wall, with an arch raiſed over it, lies a marble ſtone, with a croſs floral carved on it, in memory of the founder.

In the beginning of the reign of Edward I. we find that the prior of Weſt-acre had the rectory here appropriated to him, and the patronage of the vicarage was in that priory.

When the leaſe of the great tithes of this town (which were granted to the ſee of Ely in queen Eli-

zabeth's time) was renewed by Dr. Lany, biſhop of Ely, an augmentation of 10l. per ann. was reſerved to this vicar and his ſucceſſors, to be paid by the leſſee, who is patron of the vicarage. Before this, it appears from the accounts of the receiver-general of the court of augmentation in the reign of Henry VIII. that a yearly penſion was paid and accounted for by him of 1l. 13s. 4d. as an augmentation to the vicar of Narford for ever, out of the lands late belonging to Weſt-acre priory, and the ſame penſion we find to be continued and paid by the receiver-general in the 13th of queen Elizabeth.

It appears from the will of Richard Rand in 1417, that there were then ſtanding in the church-yard a chapel, dedicated (as the church was) to St. Mary; and in 1465, John Broſhard by will gave legacies to the gild of St. Mary, to that of the Holy Trinity, and to that of St. Mary's chapel in the church-yard, the foundations of which may ſtill be ſeen in the north part of the church-yard, at ſome diſtance from the church.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 6l. 13s. 4d. The Rev. Mr. Henry Spelman is the preſent vicar, and holds it with Narburgh, to which he was preſented by the late J. Spelman, eſq. in 1753.

In that part of the pariſh of Weſt-acre, which lies on the ſouth ſide of the river Nar, and is conſequently in this hundred, on a hill about half a furlong from the river, between South-acre and Narford, are the ruins of a chapel, commonly called Becket's Chapel; it being dedicated to St. Thomas Becket, archbiſhop of Canterbury; on the day of whoſe tranſlation, viz. July the 7th, there is an annual fair held here, which in 1478 was granted by Edward

Edward IV. to the prior of Weſt-acre, to which monaſtery this was a cell. The cuſtos, or maſter, and two or three monks his brethren, dwelt in a houſe joined to the north-eaſt part of the chapel, and performed divine ſervice daily, it ſtanding by the paſs over the river, where the pilgrims and other travellers paſſed by Caſtle-acre to Our Lady at Walſingham. The chapel was ſixty feet long and thirty broad, and its cemitry or burial-place was walled in, and was as many yards in breadth and length.

NECTON, or NEIGHTON. In king Edward the Confeſſor's time, Harold, who was afterwards king of England, was lord of this town; which on the conqueſt was given by the Conqueror to one of his lords and followers, Ralph de Tony, and at the ſurvey he held it.

This Ralph de Tony was with the Conqueror at the battle of Haſtings, and for his ſervices had the grant of this lordſhip, with many others of this county, &c. he was ſon of Robert de Tony, a great Norman baron, who was ſtandard bearer of Normandy.

From this family it deſcended in the reign of Henry VI. to the Neviles, earls of Warwick, and was in the 3d of Henry VII. releaſed by Ann counteſs of Warwick, to that king, and remained in the crown till it was granted on the 27th of June, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, as is expreſſed in the patent, to her beloved and faithful counſellor, ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, being parcel of the poſſeſſions called Warwick lands, with the wood called Necton wood, and park; the manor of Weſt-acre, in Grimſton, and Congham; the manor of Hillington, called the Abbot's manor; the manor of Uphall

Uphall, alias Aſhill, Collards and Games, with the advowſon of the church of Aſhill, in conſideration of his ſurrendering a penſion of 100l. per annum, granted him by the ſaid queen for life, for his ſervices at Framlingham, in the late rebellion, and alſo in exchange for the manors of Wald Newton and Baynton, in Yorkſhire, granted as above: In this family it continued till it was ſold to Henry Eyre, eſq. of Bures-hall, in Hale, whoſe brother, Dr. Eyre, had it.

It has within theſe few years been purchaſed by the late Daniel Collyer, eſq. of Wroxham; and his heir, the Rev. Mr. Daniel Collyer, of Wroxham, is the preſent lord of it.

SPARHAM-HALL, COCKETS, alias CORBET'S, and CHURCHMAN'S. Sparham-hall lordſhip was a part granted from the capital manor of Necton, by Roger de Tony, father of Ralph, to Roger de Clifford.

Afterwards it came into the family of the Cockets, and from them took its name.

To this lordſhip belonged a free chapel, called Sparham chapel.

This chapel was entirely demoliſhed at the diſſolution in Henry VIII. and the revenues granted by this prince to the rectory of Necton.

The advowſon and impropriation of this rectory was ſold in 1719, to John Rolf Clark, and his heir ſold them to Mr. Benjamin Young, attorney at law, in Swaffham, and at his death Mrs. Mary Young, widow, had them for life, they being ſettled on the Rev. William Young, of Caius College, but now of Swaffham, her ſecond ſon, and his heirs.

This

This impropriation being a lay fee, was ever ſince the diſſolution rented by the rectors, as it now is, there being paid 35l. per annum to the patron for it, and before the Reformation, the rectors rented it at 40s. per annum, paid to the prior of Weſt-acre.

The church of Necton is dedicated to All Saints, and is a beautiful and elegant ſtructure; it conſiſts of a nave, a north and ſouth aile of flint, &c. covered with lead, the roof of the nave is of oak, curiouſly wrought and embelliſhed.

At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a large and lofty ſquare tower of flint, coped and embattled with free-ſtone, in which is a ring of five good bells. At the weſt end of the church lie ſeveral grave-ſtones, one in memory of John Maſon, of Necton, gent. who died November 19th, 1712, in the 65th year of his age. A ſecond in memory of Frances, wife of John Maſon, of Necton, gent. who died November 2d, 1720, in the 67th year of her age. A third in memory of Elizabeth, daughter of John and Frances Maſon, who died March 17th, 1702, in the 8th year of her age.

At the lower end of the nave is a ſtone in memory of Richard Maſon, eſq. who died December 15th, 1722, in the 37th year of his age. Near to this one in memory of John Maſon, ſon of Richard Maſon, and Frances his wife, who died January 4th, 1714. One with Maſon, arg. a feſs, and in chief two lions heads coup'd azure.

In 1749, the Rev. Thomas Patrick Young was inſtituted at the preſentation of Mary Young, of Swaffham, widow, to the rectory and vicarage, conſolidated July 11, 1718. On Mrs. Young's deceaſe Mr. J. P. Young

Young became patron, and in 1752 preſented the Rev. William Young, of Swaffham, younger brother to Benjamin Young, eſq. late captain lieutenant in the Welſh Fuzileers, who ſerved many years in that regiment. Captain Young lies buried in the church at Swaffham.

This pariſh has an eſtate belonging to it, let at 6l. per annum, and one let at 5l. 10s. per annum, and ſeveral alms-houſes near the church, the profits of which are principally to repair and adorn the pariſh church, and what annually remains overplus, to be applied towards the maintenance of the poor, highways, and other common benefits of the pariſh.

NEWTON, by Caſtle-acre, is a little village on the north ſide or point of the hundred.

In the 28th of Henry VIII. Thomas Beckham held it, after Beckham ſir William Turner, of Eaſt Baſham, then Thomas Ternar, eſq. then Sir Robert Dynne, then Mr. Briggs, and about 1571, John Laxford, and Edmund Laxford in 1637: About the middle of the laſt century, Mr. John Nabs, whoſe daughter being married to Riches Brown, gent. they conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Patrick, of Caſtle-acre, by whoſe daughter and heir Helen, it came by marriage to Matthew Halcote, of Litcham, and his grandſon Matthew Halcote, Eſq. of Howe, who left it to Captain Halcote, the preſent lord, a gentleman who was formerly in the Eaſt India ſervice.

The church of Newton is dedicated to All Saints, has a body or nave with a chancel of flint and boulder covered with thatch; between the nave and chancel is a low four-ſquare tower with quoins of free-ſtone, with a wooden cap or cover; through the arch of

of this tower is the paſſage between the nave and chancel. In the tower hang two bells, and the ſtair-caſe ſerved alſo for the rood-loft, part of which is ſtill ſtanding. This is the only church in the deanries of Cranwich and Fincham, built in this collegiate or cathedral faſhion. The old church of Weſtminſter, built by the Confeſſor, is generally ſaid to have been the firſt that was erected in England of this model, and it is probable that this was built about the ſame age, having the face of great antiquity, being a low, dark and heavy pile; the whole length is about ſixty-ſeven feet, and about ſixteen in breadth.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 11. 17s. and there is ſervice here once in a fortnight only. The church is in a very bad condition.

The Rev. Joſhua Croſts was preſented to the vicarage of Newton by Caſtle-acre, by the lord biſhop of Ely 1762.

OXBURGH, or OXBOROUGH, in Domeſday-book is called Oxenburch, taking its name from its ſcite on the Ouſe, or Wiſſey, a river navigable from hence to Cambridge, Lynn, &c. thus, Oxford from a ford over the Ouſe; and this name it very well anſwers, as being a peninſula ſurrounded by this and two or three other rivulets, except in the north eaſt point. The adjunct word Burgh beſpeaks its eminence, ſhewing it have been ſome fortified town, and place of ſtrength, and beſides its natural ſcite above obſerved, about half a mile from the town to the north weſt, on a place called the Warren-hill, may be obſerved a very deep vallum or trench adjoining. The word Burgh may alſo ſignify ſome remarkable place of burial, and about the limits of the town are ſeveral tumuli, three or four near one another, on the common

common, a little ſouth of the church and town; and by the river that divides the town from the common (near the ſaid tumuli) are ſeveral places contiguous, about four or five yards long, and two or three broad, having the earth ſunk a little, where it may be juſtly concluded many perſons who fell in ſome battle were interred, thoſe little pits being called by antient people the Danes graves.

That it was a place of account in the time of the Romans, appears from coins of ſilver and braſs found here, two of Conſtantine being a few years paſt recovered, and that it continued ſo in the Saxon age appears from coins of their kings, an Aedelred being not long ſince dug up. In the time of the Danes it was (and probably before) in royal hands, and Canute, their king, having made Turchill or Turketell, a Dane, and one of their chief leaders, earl of the Eaſt-Angles, he became governor and lord of the town, as he was of Attleborough, the cities of Thetford and Norwich, as places of ſtrength and eminence; ſo that the Iciana, a Roman ſtation, might be with ſome ſhew of reaſon and juſtice preſumed to have been here.

William the Conqueror gave this lordſhip to Ralph de Limeſio, a Norman baron, his ſiſter's ſon, on whom he beſtowed forty-one manors in ſeveral counties, with the lands of Chriſtina, one of the ſiſters of prince Edgar, grandſon of king Edmund Ironſide, who was brother to Edward the Confeſſor.

One moiety afterwards came by marriage to David de Lindſey, a Scot, in the reign of Henry III. but his ſon David and his brothers dying without iſſue, his moiety in this lordſhip came to ſir Henry de Pinkeney, knt. by the marriage of Alice, ſiſter and heir

heir to David, and by his ſon ſir Henry, it was by deed granted to his kinſman ſir William Odingſells, lord of the other moiety in right of his mother.

In the 3d of Edward I. Nicholas de Weyland was found to be lord, and to hold it of Robert Burnel, and he of Odingſells, the capital lord. This Nicholas married Julian, daughter and heir of the ſaid Robert, and had the manor of Garboldiſham in this county, of 10l. per ann. given him by Robert Burnel, and probably this alſo.

On the 20th of January, in the 12th of Edward I. he had a confirmation of a market and fair, and on the 12th of May, in the following year of the ſaid king, had a grant of another fair for two days, on the vigil, and the day of the Aſſumption; alſo one for eight days every year, on the vigil, day and morrow after the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin, and for five days following, and of free-warren in all his demeans.

In the 15th year of the ſaid king, ſir Nicholas de Weyland, knt. had theſe following privileges of this lordſhip allowed in Eyre, view of frank-pledge, aſſiſe of bread and beer, gallows, pillory, tumbrel, waif and ſtray, the aforeſaid three fairs in the year, and the weekly market: all which beſpeak this town to have been in that age a place of conſequence, capable of great reception; and it appears from many old ruins and foundations, to have been in length (from the cloſes nigh to Gooderſtone common, where the old road laid to the town, to the entrance of the low ground by Oxburgh hithe) above a mile and an half; about thirty houſes and cottages having been pulled down, &c. in the ſpace of about thirty years.

All

All theſe fairs were kept regularly and annually (as appears from the court-rolls of the manor) till about the reign of queen Elizabeth, and one fair ſtill continues to be kept at the Annunciation, where horſes and cows are brought to be ſold, and tradeſmen reſort with their goods.

In 1315, ſir William de Weyland, knt. was lord.

From the Weylands this lordſhip came to the Tudenhams, and from the Tudenhams to the Bedingfields, by marriage.

Sir Thomas Tudenham married Alice, daughter of John Wodehouſe, eſq. before he was of age, and in 1436, Nov. 22, on a full hearing of the cauſe, at Lynn, before the chancellor of Norwich, the prior of Lynn, &c. he was divorced from her, on proof, and her own confeſſion of adultery; ſhe had before this left him, and was at that time a nun, profeſſed at Crabhouſe in Wiggenhall, in Norfolk, and he had power to re-marry. But the cloſe of his life was yet more unfortunate, for in February 1461, John Earl of Oxford, Aubrey his ſon and heir, this ſir Thomas, John Clopton, John Montgomery, and William Tyrrel, eſq. were arreſted by John earl of Worceſter, conſtable of England, on ſuſpicion of having received letters from Margaret wife of Henry VI. and being convicted in court by the ſaid earl of Worceſter, were all beheaded (except Clopton) on Tower-hill, on the 22d of February, 1461.

On the ſame day he made his will in the Tower, and gave to John Lord Wenlock this manor, thoſe of Caldecote, Shingham, and Sparham, with the fourth part of the barony of Bedford, for life; but ſoon after, theſe, with the reſt of his inheritance, were delivered

to Margaret ſiſter and ſole heir to ſir Thomas, relict of Edmund Bedingfield, eſq. of Bedingfeld in Suffolk. It appears that as heir to her brother, ſhe died ſeiſed of the lordſhips of Ereſwell, Weſterfield, Brandeſton, Charsfeld, Cotton-hall, Belings Magna, Groundeſburgh, Fen-hall, Newton, Elvedon, Tudenham, Chamberlain's, Shardelow's and Carbonel's; alſo of the fourth part of the manor of Whatfield, and lands in Kediton in Suffolk; the lordſhips of Oxburgh, Setchy, Sparham-hall, Shingham, Caldecote, Fouldon, Tyes, and Aldenham in Weſton, 10l. yearly rent out of the manor of Gardoldiſham in Norfolk, and the manor of Abington Parva in Cambridgeſhire.

Her will is dated at Ereſwell, the 24th of May 1474, and was proved by the biſhop of Norwich, ſhe being, as is there expreſſed, "*Nobilis et Arma* "*Gerens*:" ſhe bequeaths her body to be buried before the image of the holy croſs, near the altar of the Virgin, in the nave of the church of St. Peter of Ereſwell; 40l. for veſtments, books, and neceſſary ornaments, and to the repair of the church; 53s. 4d. for a veſtment, in which her chauntry-prieſt was to officiate on high feſtivals, before the altar of the bleſſed Virgin, and 40s. for another to officiate in on other holidays. To St. Laurence's chapel at Ereſwell, 53s. 4d. and ten marks to the poor dwelling in her manor of Ereſwell, and other her manors in Suffolk and Norfolk; an houſe, with gardens, paſtures, meadow grounds, and forty-two acres of land, with liberty of faldage, and certain rents and ſervices thereto belonging, for a chauntry-prieſt to officiate daily in the church of St. Peter, for her ſoul, and that of her father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, huſband, children, brother, &c. To the monaſtery of Bruſyard in Suffolk, where her

mother was buried, 100s. and to the nuns there 100s. to the Auguſtine Friers in London, where her brother (ſir Thomas) was buried, 20l. and that a good and decent marble ſtone be bought to cover his body, and the reſidue to be divided amongſt the friers there. To the church of Bedingfield, where her huſband was buried, 46s. 8d. for a veſtment in memory of her and her huſband. To the Friers Minors at Babeweil, 26s. 8d. the ſame ſum to the Carmes at Ipſwich; to the friers preaching at Thetford 20s. to the Auguſtine Friers there 20s. and to the nuns there 10s. To the repair of Redingfeld nunnery 10s. to the repair of Carrowe nunnery 10s. and to the nuns there 10s. To the nuns of Shouldham 20s. to be diſtributed amongſt them. To the repair of the church of Belings Magna 56s. 8d. a ſilver cup to the altar of the Virgin in the church of Ereſwell; to every prieſt aſſiſting at maſs on the day of her ſepulture 8d. to every clerk 2d. to every poor man and woman at her burial praying for her ſoul 2d. and to every poor boy 2d. and to the lady Alice Tudenham, a nun at Crabhouſe, ten marks.

The will of her huſband, Edmund Bedingfield, eſq. is dated at Bedingfeld in Suffolk, 4th of June 1451, and was proved on the 20th of July following: he bequeaths his body to be buried in the church-yard of Bedingfeld; gives to Margaret his wife all the goods and chattels which Margaret Tudenham, (daughter of John Herlyng, eſq.) her mother, had given her; to Thomas his ſon and heir twelve ſilver ſpoons and a covered cup, which was his father's; and to Edmund, ſon and heir of Thomas, a ſilver cup.

Theſe wills are of undoubted truth and record, and muſt ſilence a great and prevailing miſtake made by

by ſir Henry Spelman in his Icenia, (and by others copied after him) where he aſſerts, that the above-mentioned Edmund Bedingfield and ſir Thomas Tudenham being in different intereſts, the firſt attached to the Houſe of York, the other to that of Lancaſter, entered into a moſt ſolemn compact; Bedingfield engaging, if his party prevailed, to intercede in the behalf of Tudenham, who was to perform the like good offices for Bedingfield. The Houſe of York prevailing in the time of Edward IV. Bedingfield broke his faith, ſo ſolemnly plighted, begged and obtained the eſtate of his brother Tudenham, and left him in the hands of juſtice to be beheaded.

Edmund Bedingfield, whoſe memory is ſo ill treated, appears to have died above ten years before the ſentence paſſed, &c. on his brother-in-law Tudenham; neither Edmund nor his ſon and heir, Thomas Bedingfield, inherited it, dying in 1453, before his uncle ſir Thomas; and his mother, Margaret, firſt enjoyed it: and on her deceaſe it came to her grandſon, Edmund ſon of Thomas, of which Edmund, Alice ducheſs of Suffolk, by her deed, dated the 1ſt of December, in the 33d of Henry VI. 1454, grants the cuſtody and wardſhip, being then a minor, to his great uncle, ſir Thomas Tudenham aforeſaid.

This Edmund, ſon of Thomas, married firſt Alice daughter of ſir Ralph Shelton, by whom he had no iſſue male: his ſecond lady was Margaret daughter of ſir John Scot, of Scot's-hall in Kent, and comptroller of Calais. On the coronation of Richard III. he was created a Knight of the Bath, and was ſo highly in favour with Henry VII. for his eminent ſervices, that he paid him a royal viſit at Oxburgh, (the room where he lodged being called

the King's Room to this day) and rewarded him with ſeveral valuable lordſhips in Yorkſhire, forfeited to the crown on the attainder of the lord Lovel: his will is dated at Calais, on the 12th of October 1496, and was proved the 25th of January following; he bequeaths his body to be buried in the church of Oxburgh, before the holy Trinity, and gives 40l. to lead the church of Caldecote.

This ſir Edmund had a royal patent from Edward IV. dated July 3, 1482, to build the preſent manor-houſe or hall of Oxburgh, with towers, embattlements, &c. "*More caſtelli,*" in the form of a caſtle; and for a weekly market in this town on Friday, with a pye-powder court, to be kept by the ſteward or bailiff of the ſaid market.

This ancient ſeat ſtands a little ſouth-weſt of the church of Oxburgh; being built of brick, it very much reſembles Queen's college in Cambridge, built alſo in the ſame reign: the preſent entrance to it is over a bridge of brick, with three great arches, and embattled with free ſtone, (formerly over one of wood, with its draw-bridge) through a grand majeſtic tower, the arch whereof is about twenty-two feet long and thirteen broad; to this tower adjoin four turrets, one at each corner, of the ſame materials with the tower, brick, coped alſo and embattled with free-ſtone, projecting and octangular; the two in front are about eighty feet or more from the foundation in the moat to the ſummit, and about ten feet above the great tower.

The court-yard (about which ſtands the houſe) is one hundred and eighteen feet long and ninety-two broad, Oppoſite to the great tower on the ſouth ſide of the court ſtands the hall, in length about fifty-four

four feet, and thirty-four in breadth, between the two bow-windows; the roof is of oak, (in the ſame ſtile and form with that of Weſtminſter) equal in heighth to the length of it, and being lately very elegantly ornamented and improved, may be juſtly accounted one of the beſt old Gothic halls in England.

The outward walls of the houſe ſtand in the moat, which is pure running water, (fed by an adjoining rivulet) about two hundred and ſeventy feet long, and fifty-two broad on every ſide, and faced with brick on the ſide oppoſite to the houſe, and can be raiſed to the depth of about ten feet of water, or let out as occaſion ſerves.

This venerable manſion, which at firſt view impreſſes the mind with an idea of the grandeur and antiquity of the family, as richly deſerves the attention of a curious traveller as any family-ſeat in Norfolk; and being ſo near the turnpike-road to Lynn at Stoke, (ſcarcely two miles) it is wonderful that any who make the tour of Norfolk ſhould paſs it unſeen, being the nobleſt and moſt perfect remnant of antiquity in this county. King Edward IV. when he granted a patent for the building it, gives permiſſion for it to be erected, *more caſtelli*, as obſerved before; but probably the prieſts of the times got about the founder, and diverted him from his original intention, for Oxburgh hall wears more the aſpect of a college or monaſtery than of a caſtle. It is ſomewhat ſingular of this ſpacious building, that though the foundations are in a moat, and a river runs round the whole, all the apartments and rooms are free from damps, and it is perhaps the drieſt houſe in the kingdom of its extent and dimenſions.

Sir Thomas Bedingfield, eldeſt ſon of ſir Edmund the founder, dying without iſſue, and Robert, the ſecond ſon, being in holy orders, the inheritance deſcended to

Sir Edmund, the third ſon, who attended king Henry VIII. in his wars abroad, and was knighted by Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, general of the Engliſh army at Montdedier in France, on the taking of that town in 1523. By his lady Grace, daughter of the lord Marny, he had

Sir Henry Bedingfield, his ſon and heir, who was one of thoſe gentlemen that appeared in arms at Framlingham in Suffolk, in defence of queen Mary, and her title to the crown, and brought with him one hundred and forty men completely armed. By her he was appointed knight marſhal of her army, captain of her guards, and on the 28th of October, 1555, was made governor of the tower of London, and one of the privy-council, in 1557 vice-chamberlain to the queen, had a penſion of 100l. per ann. aſſigned him for life, and part of the eſtate of ſir Thomas Wyat, forfeited on his rebellion.

His ſon Edmund, by Ann, daughter of ſir Robert Southwell, of Hoxne in Suffolk, had Thomas, his ſon and heir, who by an inquiſition taken on the 30th of July, in the 32d of queen Elizabeth, at Swaffham, was found to die ſeiſed of the manors of Oxburgh, Caldecote manor held of Elizabeth, wife of ſir John Denham, Setchy manor, Shingham manor, held of the crown as of the honour of Clare, Eaſt-hall manor in Cley, held of the crown as of the honour of Clare, Weſt-hall manor in Cley, held of the crown as of the honour of Richmond, the rectory of Cley St. Peter's held of the crown, the hundred

of

of South Greenhoe, held of the crown *in capite* by half a fee, an annuity of 10l. per ann. iſſuing out of the manor of Garboldiſham, Ickburgh manor and advowſon, held of the honour of Clare, Neſton manor with its appurtenances, Aſhill manor, Uphall, Collard's, Game's, &c. held *in capite*, with the advowſon of the church, Cavenham manor in Stoke, Warham, and Wretton held of the crown, Buxton and Heveningham manors held *in capite*, North Pickenham and Houghton manors held *in capite*, Swanton Morley manor held *in capite*, Worthing manor held *in capite*, Stratton-hall manor held of the manor of Hoxne, and Welham and Rees's manors there, held of ſir Robert Inglos in Norfolk, the manors of Bedingfeld, Denham and Charsfield, Ereſwell, alſo of Chamberlain's in Ereſwell, and Scot's manor in Martleſham in Suffolk, Pebmarſh's and Dagworth's in Eſſex, with Henny and Pooly manors in the ſaid county; all which deſcended to his ſon and heir

Sir Henry Bedingfield, whoſe great-grandſon ſir Henry Bedingfield, bart, inherited Oxburgh as immediate heir to the Weylands and Tudenhams, in a lineal deſcent, for upwards of five hundred years.

The late ſir Henry Bedingfield married the lady Elizabeth Boyle, eldeſt daughter of Charles earl of Burlington, and ſiſter of Richard Boyle, the late earl of Burlington, whoſe only ſurviving daughter and heireſs married the late duke of Devonſhire, and was mother of the preſent duke. The title of Burlington is now extinct, the late earl dying without iſſue male.

By the lady Elizabeth Boyle, ſir Henry Bedingfield had ſeveral children, and was ſucceeded in title and

eſtate by the preſent ſir Richard Bedingfield, his eldeſt ſon.

Sir Richard Bedingfield, bart. the preſent lord of Oxburgh, married a daughter of the late lord viſcount Montague, and ſiſter of the preſent lord, Anthony Browne, viſcount Montague. By lady Bedingfield (deceaſed ſome years ſince) ſir Richard has an only ſon and heir. His ſiſter married Charles Biddulph, eſq. of Suſſex.

Ode's, Sparrow's, or Chauntry Manor. William Odo was lord in the ſecond of Richard II.

Richard Sparwe or Sparrow, gent. afterwards held it, and by his will, dated the 24th of April, 1482, and proved the 10th of February 1483, gives this manor, with all the ſervices, quit-rents, lands, tenements, paſtures, meadows, &c. lying in the towns and fields of Oxburgh, and Caldecote, (now by corruption called Cocket, formerly a little hamlet adjoining to Oxburgh, but now conſiſting of a ſingle houſe) to the founding of a chauntry in the church of Oxburgh, and for the maintenance of a prieſt to officiate in the ſaid church, to pray for his ſoul, the ſouls of his parents, children, and all his benefactors.

The chauntry (as appears by the ſaid will) was founded in honour of the Holy Trinity, the glorious Virgin Mary, St. John the Evangeliſt, and all the Saints. William Elys, was named by the founder the firſt chauntry prieſt, whom he requires to be a native of the dioceſe of Norwich, a ſecular prieſt, and to have no eccleſiaſtical benefice: he appoints twelve truſtees, and when it devolved to three, they were to make a new election, and to name and appoint

point the ſaid prieſts, and on their neglect for one month, the prior of Weſtacre was to name, &c. and on his neglect for one month, the churchwardens of Oxburgh; and the rector of Oxburgh was ſupervisor of his will.

The capital meſſuage, lands, &c. were granted by Edw. VI. in his 2d year, to Olbert Mundeford and Thomas Gawdy, eſqrs. and their heirs, to be held in free ſoccage of the manor of Drayton in Norfolk.

On the 16th of June, in the 6th of Elizabeth, it was held by Gabriel Bates, gent. who for the ſum of 160l. ſold it to John Curlington, from whom it paſſed by John Grimſton, Arthur Hewer, Thomas Chaplin, Edmund Peirce, Remigius Booth, William Scot, gent. &c. to Thomas Craſke, that is to ſay, the capital meſſuage, with about fifty acres of land, arable and paſture, the manor and moſt of the lands being alienated.

That it was originally well endowed, appears from what hath been already ſpecified, and from a *terrier* made in the 11th of Henry VII. when there were ſeventeen acres of paſture incloſed, ſeven ſcore and five acres, with three roods of arable land, then belonging to it.

About the year 1720, Thomas ſon of the aforeſaid Thomas Craſk, ſold it to ſir Henry Bedingfield, bart. The houſe that belonged to it, in which the prieſt lived, ſtands in the town of Oxburgh, a little eaſt of the churgh, being a great building, and had lately a large hall, with ſcreens, butteries, &c. adjoining, (as in colleges) incloſed next the ſtreet, with a lofty long wall of freeſtone, with embattlements or copings of the ſame; the entrance to it was through

through a neat and lofty arch in the walls, now worked up.

South-weſt of the town a mile, is the Hithe, to which place the river Wiſſey is navigable: here are graneries for corn, and coal yards; and lighters and boats paſs from hence to Lynn, Cambridge and other towns on that navigation.

About two miles eaſt of the town, in the road to Cley, a little before you come to Langwade croſs, (part of which is ſtill ſtanding on the greenway, which is the boundary between Oxburgh and Cley) was a houſe of lepers. Thomas Salmon, chaplain of Oxburgh in 1380, gave by will to the chapel of St. Mary at Oxburgh, 3s. 4d. and the lazars at Langwade 6d. There was an antient family of this name, who took their name from the long-wade or paſſage here over the river. Ralph and Robert de Langwade gave by deed lands to Weſt Dereham abbey.—The lete is in the lord of the manor.

The church of Oxburgh is dedicated to St. John the Evangeliſt; it is a large and regular edifice, conſiſting of middle, north and ſouth ailes; in length, from the weſt door to the chancel, about eighty-eight feet, and, including all the ailes, in breadth about fifty-three feet. The chancel is about forty-ſix feet long and twenty-one broad; the whole is of flint-ſtone, &c. covered with lead, and ſeems to have been founded about the reign of Edward I. At the weſt end ſtands a four-ſquare tower of curious workmanſhip of flint, with quoins and battlements of freeſtone; on this is raiſed a lofty octangular ſpire, all of free-ſtone throughout, the whole being one hundred and fifty feet in heighth.

In

In this tower hang five musical bells, the first thus inscribed, *Omnia sint ad Gloriam Dei*, 1610. The third, *Te per Orbem Terrarum Sancta confitetur Ecclesia, Patrem immensæ Majestatis* 1582, and on this is the figure of St. Edmund. The fourth, *Venerandum tuum verum, et unicum Filium*, 1582. The fifth, *O Christe, Rex Gloriæ Es Tu*, 1586. Here also is a clock, which strikes on the bell hanging on the outside of the spire, with a dial-plate on the west side of the tower.

At the west door, as you enter, lie two old gravestones, one on the right hand, the other on the left, with plain crosses on them; also a third with a cross fleury, and serves for the uppermost step, as you descend into the church, in memory most probably of some of the family of the Weylands, lords of the town and founders of the church. The lady Cecilia de Weyland, by her will, dated in 1384, bequeathed her body to be buried in the churchyard, before the west door; on each side of which is a nich of stone-work for images.

On the pavement of this church lie several gravestones, deprived of their brasses: on one before the screen of the chancel, with a brass plate,

Orate pro anima Domini Johannis Blome Capellan' qui obiit 25 die Julii, An° Dni' M.ccccciiii, Cujus, &c.

He was chaplain of Sparrow's chauntry in this church, and by his will, dated the 16th of April, 1501, bequeathed his body to be buried here, near the altar of the Crucifix, and gave all his lands and tenements in the town and fields of Oxburgh, to the keeping of his anniversary on Monday in Easter week,

week for ever, placing one herſe over his ſepulchre, and finding two lights on it, of one pound of wax, to burn in time of Exequiæ and Maſs performing on the day of the commemoration of his death; four torches to burn before his ſepulchre, and to find one light to burn before the image of the Holy Trinity in the chancel every feſtival day in time of divine ſervice, and one penny offering at the maſs on the commemoration of his death; to the increaſe and maintenance of the green torches in the ſaid church, 3s. 4d. and to pay the Rome-ſhot and Candle-ſilver of the whole village for ever. He appointed that when all his feoffees but four were dead, a new feoffment ſhould be made to ſixteen or twelve of the beſt and honeſteſt men of the pariſh.

The pulpit and deſk are of neat plain oak; round the ſounding board, in letters of gold, "This pul-" pit and deſk, together with a clock, was made by " the gift of Robert Shales, gent. who died May " 20, 1702, aged 47." Before the deſk ſtands a very large braſs eagle, ſupported by three lions, the whole being about ſix feet in heighth, and thus inſcribed:

Orate pro anima Thome Kyppyng quondam Rectoris de Narburgh.

The roof of the nave is ſupported by octangular ſtone pillars, forming twelve large arches, ſix on a ſide, with windows over them. In the window over the fourth arch on the ſouth ſide is, Arg. on a croſs, gul. five eſcallops or, Weyland; and in that of the fourth arch on the north:

Orate pro animab' Dni' Roberti Weyland et Cecilie Uxoris ejus.

The

The eaſt end of this aile is of different work from the other parts of it; the roof of it is advanced, has a large window, and was, as we take it, the chapel of St. Mary, the effigies of the Virgin with the child Jeſus may be ſtill obſerved, alſo an holy water ſtop makes part of the pavement: to this aile is annexed a large porch.

The north aile has a porch, the roof of which has been painted; over the door as you enter the church is a pedeſtal, and on the pavement are the remains of an old marble grave-ſtone, probably for the founder: the whole is of different workmanſhip, and more modern than the reſt of the church.

In the chancel hangs a table, thus inſcribed:—"*OXBURGH, Benefactors to this Church and "Poor.*" Then follows a liſt of the benefactors and benefactions to the church and town.

The chancel is ſeparated from the church by a lofty ſcreen, which, with the pannels, has been curiouſly painted; over this are the king's arms. As you enter, on the pavement lies a grey marble ſtone, with the portraiture of a prieſt robed, &c. with a label,

Jeſu Fili Dei, miſerere Mei.

Againſt the north wall of the chancel is a neat mural monument of marble, ornamented with two marble pilaſters of the Ionic order, two piles of books, and on them two lamps with flames of gold; on the ſummit is an urn, feſtoons, and two lamps, &c.

Hic ſitus eſt Henricus Meriton, A. M. qui Hadſtochiæ in agro Eſſexienſi, Cantabrigiæ inter Magdalenſes educatus, et per ſexaginta et amplius annos, parochiæ hujus

hujus rector vigilantissimus, quam nactus est provinciam antiqua fide, eximia pietate, atque egregia rerum sacrarum scientia, implevit, ornavit. Indefessus veritatis indagator, assertorque strenuus, et jam arduis et difficilibus temporibus pernicios, Romanensium, aliorumque errores, et fraudes, perspicaci et firmo animo detexit et labefactavit, obiit 30 Jan. 1707.

At the bottom is this shield—Az. on a chevron or, three roses gules, and a canton ermine, Meriton. And under the urn above,

Impensis Johannis Meriton filij Henrici.

Between the church and chancel is an arch of stone for the saints bell: south of the chancel, and at the east end of the south aile, is a very beautiful chapel of free stone, with buttresses of the same, and separated from the chancel and the south aile with stone work about four feet high; on this is raised a large arch or covering of brick-earth, curiously moulded, burnt and whitened, on which are several pilasters, with capitals of the Corinthian order, cherubs, lamps, vases, &c. neatly executed; the space between the body and the arch or covering, is guarded by iron rails; on the roof, which is of oak, and covered with lead, are the arms of Bedingfield and Tudenham, Weyland, Scot and Vert, a chev. ermine between three rams tripping arg. Wetherby, and also Shelton.

" Margaret Bedingfield, relict of sir Edmund,
" Knight of the Bath, was the foundress. By her
" will, dated the 12th of January, 1513, she be-
" queaths her body to be buried in the church of
" Oxburgh, before the image of the Trinity, where
" I will a chapel to be erected."

Against

Againſt the ſouth ſide is a large altar monument of marble, &c. two pillars of the Corinthian order, with their capitals gilt with gold, ſupport a canopy or covering, whereon ſtand three ſhields. In the midſt, Bedingfield, erm. a ſpread eagle gul. beaked and peded or.

On the wall-piece is this inſcription in letters of gold:

Caſta Bedingfeldo Comes, hic Katharina Marito eſt.
Luſtris Viva decem, quæ fuit ante Comes.
Prole Virum Conjux, Vir adauxit honoribus illam,
Faclus poſt multos Nominis hujus Eques.
Inde Satellitium ſumpſit, Turrimq; regendam,
Pars a Conſilijs Una, Maria tuis.
Privatus Senium, Chriſtoque, Sibique dicavit.
Vir pius, et veræ Religionis amans.
Hoſpitio largis, miſeriſque ſuiſque benignus,
Ad Mortem et Morbi tædia, fortis erat.

Round this inſcription are ſeveral knots, and horſes fetterlocks, or. (badges made uſe of by this family.) The fetterlock was the badge of the Houſe of York, and might, by ſome grant, have been given to the Bedingfields for their attachment to it; and there was a particular room (as appears from an old inventory of Oxburgh-hall) called by the name of the Fetterlock. This badge was deviſed by Edmund duke of York, fifth ſon to Edward III. *locked*, as one ſhould ſay, for he was far from the inheritance: and was given by Edward IV. *unlocked* and ſomewhat open, or, to his ſecond ſon, Richard duke of York: ſo fond was that king of this badge or device, that the apartments of the prebendaries of Windſor were built by him in this form, and the ſaid king made uſe of it himſelf. Hall has a draught

draught of a fetterlock with a faulcon in it, before his hiſtory of the life of that king; and Edmund of Langley, duke of York, when he rebuilt Fotheringhay caſtle in Northamptonſhire, made the higheſt keep in the ſame form. Camden ſays, that the aforeſaid Edmund bore alſo a faulcon in a fetterlock, implying he was *locked* up from all hope and poſſibility of the kingdom, when his brethren began to aſpire thereunto; whereupon he aſked his ſons on a time, when he ſaw them beholding this device ſet up in a window, *what was Latin for a fetter-lock?* whereat when the young gentlemen ſtudied, the father ſaid, *Well, if you cannot tell me, I will tell you:* "*Hic, Hæc, Hoc, taceatis.*" As adviſing them to be ſilent and quiet, and therewithal ſaid, *Yet God knoweth what may come to paſs hereafter.* This his great grandchild, Edward IV. reported, when he commanded that his youngeſt ſon, Richard duke of York, ſhould uſe this device with the fetterlock open.

There is no date to this monument erected to the memory of ſir Henry Bedingfield, knt. captain of the guards, governor of the tower of London, and privy councillor to queen Mary, who was buried here, as appears from the regiſter, on the 24th of Auguſt 1583, and his lady on the 7th of December 1581.

Againſt the north wall of the ſaid chapel is a large and lofty monument of black and white marble, reſting on the pavement. On the ſummit is an urn of black marble, ornamented with feſtoons, &c. below that, two ſhields ſupported by two angels, on one of which is this inſcription.

Under this monument lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, the 17th knight of this family, eminent for

for his loyalty to his Prince, and ſervice of his country. In the time of the rebellion he was kept three years priſoner in the Tower, and great part of his eſtate was ſold by the rebels, the reſt ſequeſtered during his life. He had two wives, the firſt, Mary daughter to William Lord Howard, of the North, by whom he had one ſon, who dyed without iſſue: His ſecond wife was Elizabeth daughter of Peter Houghton, Eſq. by whom he had 5 ſons and 6 daughters: He died November 22, An°. Dni 1657, Æt. 70, and 6 months.

On the other ſhield—*Here lyeth Elizabeth wife of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, Knt. and daughter of Peter Houghton of Houghton-Tower in Lancaſhire, Eſq; She dyed on the 11th of April An° Dni 1662.*

Beati Mortui qui in Domino moriuntur. Eccles'

Below theſe are two ſhields with arms, Bedingfield, and ſable three bars arg. Houghton.

On the lower part of this mural monument are two other ſhields, one with the arms of Bedingfield, the other of Paſton, and this inſcription:

Under this monument lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, the firſt baronet of the family, made by the eſpecial favour of King Charles the II. He was tall and comely, endow'd with rare parts both natural and acquired. He ſerv'd King Charles I. in all the rebellion, and till the Reſtoration was a great ſufferer in his perſon and eſtate. From which time to his death, he liv'd a moſt exemplary life, beloved and admir'd for his virtue and wiſdom: His death was extremely lamented, which happen'd on the 24th of February An°, Dni 1684, æt. 70 and 5 months. He

married the daughter and heireſs of Edward Paſton, Eſq; by whom he had 7 ſons and 6 daughters.

Here lyeth the body of dame Margaret, the only child of Edward Paſton, of Horton in the county of Glouceſter, Eſq; & the only wife of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, here alſo interr'd, a perſon of extraordinary parts, piety and prudence, who after 50 years enjoyment of perfect felicity in the married ſtate, paſs'd 18 years widowhood, in an abſolute retreat, in the conſtant exerciſe of her devotions, and dayly diſtribution of charity, and departed this life, January 14, 1702, aged 84 years, having firſt erected this monument to the memory of her dear and deſerving huſband.

Againſt the eaſt wall of the chapel is a neat mural monument of black and white marble, veined with red; on the ſummit is an urn with a flame of gold; at the bottom is a death's head between two cherubims, and the whole is ornamented with feſtoons, and the arms of Bedingfield; alſo Bedingfield impaling ſable ſix ſwallows arg. Arundel. Bedingfield impaling Howard.—On the body is this inſcription in letters of gold:

Beneath this monument is interr'd the moſt virtuous and pious lady, Elizabeth youngeſt daughter of ſir John Arundel, of Lanhern in Cornwall, and ſecond wife to Sir Henry Bedingfeld, of Oxburgh, Knt. and Bart. who in the 35th year of her age, departed this life, on the 13th of April 1690, leaving an only ſon and three daughters.

Requieſcat in Pace.

Hic jacet Domina Anna Bedingfeld, filia et Hæres Caroli Howard, Comitis de Berkſhire ex Dorothea Conjuge

Conjuge Uxor Henrici Bedingfeld, Equitis Aurati, quæ Pietate in Deum, Charitate in Egenos, Equitate in omnes insignis, obijt die 19 *Septembris* 1682, *ætat. suæ* 32.

Requiescat in Pace.

Here lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, son of Sir Henry Bedingfeld by Dame Margaret Paston: He was a person of great worth and honour, and particularly eminent for his great hospitality; he had two wives, the first Ann Howard, only child then living of Charles Lord Viscount Andover, and afterwards Earl of Berkshire, by whom he had no issue; the last wife was Elizabeth youngest daughter of Sir John Arundel, by whom he has left one son and two daughters, and departed this life September 14, 1704, *aged* 68.

Requiescat in Pace.

About the beginning of the reign of Edward I. we find from Norwich Doomsday, that sir William de Odynsells was lord of the town and patron of the church; the rector then had a mansion-house, with fifteen acres of glebe: the rectory was valued at eighteen marks.

Edmund Gournay and Hugh de Holland, as trustees, gave the advowson of this church to the abbey of West Dereham, who presented in 1416.

In 1512, the abbot presented Robert Bedingfield, second son of sir Edmund Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, who was pensioner of Corpus Christi college in Cambridge, and a benefactor thereto, by making the west windows of the building leading from the college to Bennet church (which was then used as a chapel for the college) at his own charge. In 1537 he was

rector of Cayſterton Parva, in Lincoln diocese, and was inſtituted rector of Ereſwell in 1533, being buried in Oxburgh church in 1539, July 19.

On the diſſolution of the abbey of Weſt Dereham, the advowſon of this church was given to Edward lord Clinton, in the 6th of Edward VI. to be held of the king as of the manor of Eaſt Greenwich in free ſoccage; and in the ſaid year the aforeſaid lord ſold it to William Breton, of London, gent. who conveyed it ſoon after to Francis Boldero, gent. of Redgrave in Suffolk, from whom it came to Edmund Dethick, eſq. of Wormegay, and then to Henry Reynolds, eſq. of Belſtede in Suffolk, who ſold it to John Hethe, of Lynn Regis, and of Keepier in the county of Durham, who conveyed it to John Chetham, of Livermere in Suffolk, gent. on the 22d of May, in the 19th of Elizabeth, and Chetham conveyed it to Edmund Bedingfield on the 4th of Auguſt, in the 26th of Elizabeth, and ſir Henry Bedingfield in the 18th of Charles I. to Henry Meriton, clerk, of Stilton in Huntingdonſhire, which Henry left it to John Meriton his ſon, rector here, and he gave it to his widow for life, after whoſe death it went to John Meriton, clerk, his ſon and heir, who ſold it to Caius college in Cambridge, and that ſociety now hath the patronage.

In 1717, the late Rev. and learned antiquarian, Charles Parkin, was preſented to this rectory by Mrs. Mary Meriton. He publiſhed in 1744 an anſwer to Dr. Stukeley's *Origines Royſtonianæ*, and alſo a reply on that ſubject. He continued the ESSAY towards a HISTORY of NORFOLK, left unfiniſhed by the late Rev. Mr. Blomefield, who had at a very great expence collected materials for that extenſive work, and publiſhed the chief part of it before his death.

The

The gentlemen of Norfolk are much indebted to tl late Mr. Blomefield for his unwearied affiduity i profecuting fo laborious an undertaking.

The prefent rector is the Rev. Joſhua White, late fellow of Gonville and Caius college in Cambridge, who was prefented to this rectory, with Fouldon, conſolidated June 1761, by the maſter and fellows of that college in 1765.

The lady Margaret Bedingfield by will, dated the 12th of January, 1513, gave to the gilds of the Holy Trinity, St. Thomas, and Corpus Chriſti here, 6s. 8d. to each, and legacies to the high altar of ſeveral neighbouring churches.

They were called gilds from the Saxon word *Gild*, or *Geld*, which ſignifies *Money*, becauſe a gild is a ſociety, or fraternity, aſſociating themſelves either upon the account of charity, religion, or trade, and they contributed money, goods, and often lands for the ſupport of their common charges, and are ſaid to be common, even in the Saxon times. Theſe gilds had their frequent meetings, and their grand Annual, on the day of the Saint to whom they were dedicated, and maintained a prieſt or prieſts to ſing maſs, and celebrate divine ſervice, for the ſouls of the king and queen, and for the ſouls of the living and dead of their fraternity; from hence the ſeveral companies in cities and corporations had their beginning, and the chief hall of the city of London and that of Norwich, &c. is called at this day Gild-Hall.

Licenſe was generally granted from the crown to found them: they conſiſted of a cuſtos, alderman,

or maſter, and as many perſons, men and women, in the townſhip or neighbourhood, as thought fit to be of the fraternity; and the warden, or alderman, with the major part of the ſociety, were empowered to chooſe annually a warden and other officers, for the government of the ſame. They, as a body corporate, had power to purchaſe lands, &c. for the maintenance of their chaplains, who were to pray at the altar belonging to them in the pariſh church. Divers of the nobility, biſhops, and other eminent perſons thought it no diſhonour to be admitted into them, which admiſſion was ſued for with great reverence, and an oath was taken to be good and true to the maſters of the gilds, and to all the brethren.

We have an account of a feſtival of the gild of the Holy Croſs at Abingdon in Berkſhire. This fraternity held their feaſt yearly on the 3d of May, the *Invention of the Holy Croſs*, and then they uſed to have twelve prieſts to ſing a *dirige*, for which they had given them four-pence a-piece; they had alſo twelve minſtrels, who had 2s. 5d. beſides their diet and horſe meat. At one of theſe feaſts, in the 23d of Henry VI. they had ſix calves, valued at 2s. 2d. a-piece, ſixteen lambs, 12d. a-piece, eighty capons, 3d. a-piece, eighty geeſe, 2d. ob. a-piece, eight hundred eggs, which coſt 5d. the hundred, and many marrow-bones, cream and flour, beſides what their ſervants and others brought in; and pageants, plays, and May-games, to captivate the ſenſes of the zealous beholders and to allure the people to the greater liberality; for they did not make their feaſts without profit, for thoſe that *ſat* at dinner paid one rate, and thoſe that *ſtood* paid another. Theſe plays were hiſtories of the Old and New Teſtament, the perſons therein mentioned being brought upon the ſtage, whom

whom the poet, according to his fancy, brings in talking to one another; a ſpecimen of one of theſe plays, called *Corpus Chriſti*, may be ſeen in Stephen's *Additions to the Monaſticon.*

Theſe gilds alſo gave annual charity; ſtipends to poor perſons; found beds and entertainments for poor people that were ſtrangers, and had people to keep and tend the ſaid beds, and did other works of charity. The houſes where thoſe entertainments were held, were generally near the church; and the houſe on the ſouth ſide of the church-yard of Oxburgh belonged to one of the gilds there, and is called in old writings the Gild-hall; and the houſe on the eaſt ſide of the ſaid church-yard was another Gild-hall, and belonged to that of Corpus Chriſti, the ceilings being painted and beautified with the portraiture of our Saviour, the five wounds, &c. as may be obſerved at this day.

South-weſt of the preſent church about half a mile, and near to the rectory houſe, ſtands the ancient parochial or mother church, being a ſingle building of flint, &c. with a ſiniſhing over, and having four large buttreſſes of free-ſtone, one at each corner: it is a very plain rude edifice, about thirty-four feet in length and twenty in breadth, very much reſembling that draught of the church of Glaſtonbury, ſaid to be built by Joſeph of Arimathea, as exhibited by ſir Henry Spelman, in his Hiſtory of the Councils.

About the ſouth-weſt part of this pile, near the foundation of the buttreſs, a gardener digging ſome years paſt, found a ſmall Saxon braſs coin; on one ſide the legend is AEDELRED REX, the reverſe obſcure, but ſeems to be LEOFSTAN, probably the mint maſ-

ter. This is that Edelred or Eldred, who was king of England in 946, about whoſe reign this church was moſt likely erected.

The greateſt part of the old pile is ſtill entire, with the arches of the eaſt and weſt windows, and ſome of the principals of the old roof: the weſtern part of it is now a dove-houſe, and has been ſo time immemorial; it was moſt likely diſuſed ſome ages ſince, upon the building of the other church, as may be ſuppoſed from the burials of ſeveral rectors ſome ages paſt.

On the north ſide of the eaſt window, is an arch in the wall, no doubt for the *Imago Principalis*, which was enjoined to be in all churches,

To this old church there belonged a very large church-yard or cemitery, containing three or four acres of ground, now part of the glebe. Incredible numbers of human bones and ſculls have been dug up in the ground round this edifice; now the ſmallneſs of the old church bearing no proportion to its cemitery, ſhews that the pariſh in thoſe early days was very large, and required a large cemitery to inter them in; but ſmall churches were often found, and very mean ones too, at that time in large places: if there was but room for an altar, and for a number to hear maſs, it was ſufficient. Preaching in thoſe days, and till near our own times, being often in the church-yards, as under the oak in St. Clement's church-yard, and in the Green-yard at Norwich, at Paul's Croſs in London, &c.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 18l. 6s. 8d. and the church has a ſpire on its tower which is ſeen at a conſiderable diſtance.

Some

Some years ſince an act paſſed to impower ſir Henry Bedingfield, bart. lord here, to drain, improve and encloſe ſeven hundred acres of land, called Oxburgh common, which was accordingly done.

The village contains about thirty houſes and one hundred and eighty inhabitants.

PICKENHAM NORTH. From Doomſday-book we learn, that part of this village called Pickenham was a berewic, a little lordſhip or hamlet, belonging to the king's manor of Sporle, and was valued with it. It lies ſouth-eaſt of Swaffham about three miles.

There are three different manors in this village, belonging to different proprietors:

HUGGLESFORD MANOR,
VIRLEY'S MANOR, and
EARL WARREN'S MANOR.

The former was ſold by the late ſir Henry Bedingfield, bart. to Henry Eyre, eſq. of Bure's or Berry's Hall in Hale, now in poſſeſſion of John Richard Daſhwood, eſq. of Cockley Cley.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and built of flint, ſtones, &c. the body is about forty-two feet in length, and with the ſouth aile annexed, is about thirty in breadth, both covered with lead. On the north ſide of the nave is a chapel, about fourteen feet, covered with lead. The chancel is in length about fourteen feet, and covered with tile.

The

The preſent rector is the Rev. Mr. Robert Say, ſon of the late vicar of Swaffham, and chaplain to the preſent earl of Orford, lord lieutenant of this county. Mr. Say had this living on his own preſentation for this turn, in 1764, with Houghton on the Hill, conſolidated February 27, 1747.

In this town was an hermitage, with a chapel dedicated to St. Paul, held by John Caius, M. D. in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary. This was the great benefactor to Gonville College in Cambridge: by the large additions made to it by Dr. Caius it is now more frequently called Caius College. On his monument is inſcribed by his own order,

FUI CAIUS.

This rectory is 5l. 4s. 2d. in the king's books.

SOUTH PICKENHAM, is about a mile to the ſouthward of North Pickenham, in the road from Swaffham to Watton, a diſtance of nine miles.

This town was formerly divided into two moieties, the one belonging to the earl of Clare, the other to the Neviles, lord Latimers.

LATIMER'S MOIETY. About the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth this moiety was in ſir Henry Hobart: afterwards it came to the Methwolds, and from them it came, in 1670, to ſir Thomas Player, knt. who conveyed it to Anthony Fiſher, eſq. who partly built the manor-houſe, now called the Hall, and his ſon Anthony ſold it to ſir Edward Atkins, knt. lord chief baron of the Exchequer, who finiſhed the houſe and reſided here in the reign of king William, and the baron's ſon Richard

Richard conveyed it to Thomas Chute, esq. clerk of the crown in Chancery, whose son Leonard dying without issue, it came to his brother, Devereux Chute, and on his death to Thomas Lobb Chute, son of Thomas Lobb, esq. by Elizabeth eldest sister of Leonard, who is the present lord and patron. Mr. Chute has raised many beautiful and extensive plantations near the manor-house, and upon the heath leading to Swaffham.

Clare's Moiety. In the 31st of Henry VIII. this moiety was joined to Latimer's, as it now remains.

The church of South Pickenham is dedicated to all the Saints, and is a single building, having only one aile or nave, of flint, &c. in length about forty-two feet, and in breadth about sixteen, with a roof of oak, covered with lead.

On the north side of the nave is a porch covered with tiles; on the same side has been a chapel, or burial place, of brick, now in ruins, without a roof, and overgrown with Ivy; Henry Hobart, youngest son of sir Henry Hobart, knt. lord chief justice of the Common Pleas, built it, and was there buried the 17th of Nov. 1638.

At the west end of the nave is a very antique round tower, and on that an octangular top, raised some centuries after, and on the decay of the other, which was very probably built by Edric the Danish lord. On the summit is a little shaft. In this tower hang three bells. The chancel is divided from the nave by a wooden screen, and is twenty-four feet in length, and about eighteen in breadth, and

and covered with reed. In the eaſt window are Methelwold's arms, with a creſcent arg.

Againſt the ſouth wall, within the rails of the communion table, to which there are an aſcent of two ſteps, is a compartment of white marble: on the ſummit is Fiſher, gul. a chevron between three lions paſſant or, impaling Willis, party per feſs gul. and arg. three lions rampant counterchanged, in a bordure ermine, and this epitaph.

Here lieth interred the body of Anthony Fiſher, Eſq; eldeſt ſon of William Fiſher, of Wiſbeach in the Iſle of Ely and County of Cambridge, Eſq; who married Ann the eldeſt daughter of Sir Thomas Willys, of Fen Ditton in the County of Cambridge, Bart. & had iſſue of her, 4 ſons, viz. Anthony, John, Thomas and William, and one daughter, Ann. He departed this life the 3d day of June 1679, *In Spe Beatæ Reſurrectionis. Here alſo lieth the body of William Fiſher, Gent. (only brother of Anthony Fiſher, Eſq;) who died the 21ſt of May,* 1685.

Oppoſite to this, on the north wall, is another compartment of white marble, ornamented with two cherubs; on the ſummit an urn with a flame of gold; at the foot of the monument, Chute, gul. three ſwords bar-ways arg. hilted or, impaling Chute; creſt a dexter arm coup'd holding a ſword, and on the table is this:

Juxta hoc Marmor requieſcit Thomas Lennard Chute, Armiger
Luctuoſum ſævientis Podagræ Exemplar,
Non Annis ſed doloribus confectus.
Inſenuit Juvenis, et ad Cælos
Migravit adhuc Viridis.

Vir,

Vir, Fide, Virtute, Pietate,
Conſtans, Audax, Sincerus.
Dominus non Importunus, amicus Suaviſſimus,
Omnibus facilis. Æquuſq;
Nulli non charus.
Vixit Filius, Conjux, Frater, pius, Fidelis, amantiſſimus.
Ingeni dotes, ſi quis alius unquam
Præclaras habuit, nec faſtuoſas.
Deceſſit omnibus vere flebilis,
Inimicus enim Nemini.
Salutis. } *MDCCXXII.*
Denatus XI° Die Maij Anno
Ætatis } *XXXIII.*
Uxorem duxit CATHERINAM filiam
Edvardi Chute Armigeri quæ Unicum
Suſcepit filium, qui X Menſes Natus obijt.

This church fell down in a violent ſtorm, Nov. 10, 1604, when Dr. Jagon, biſhop of Norwich, granted a faculty to cover it with lead.

On the pavement in the chancel lies a grey marble ſtone, with this ſhield:—Methwold, impaling Allington, quartering in the ſecond quarter Argenton, in the third, azure, ſeven martlets or, and a canton ermine, Fitz-Tecle, and in the fourth quarter, parted per feſs arg. and ſab. a pale counterchanged, on each piece of the firſt, a griffin's head eraſed, of the 2d, Gardiner, Mary daughter and heir of ſir Richard Gardiner, lord Mayor of London in the time of Edward IV. and of Exning in Cambridgeſhire, was married the 12th of Henry VIII. to ſir Giles Allington. And on a plate of braſs is this:

Here lieth William Methwold, Gent. the ſecond ſon of William Methwold, of Langford, Eſq; His wife

wife was Sufanna the daughter of George Allington, of Ruſhford, Eſq; by whom he had iſſue three ſons and four daughters. He died the xxix day of Aug. An° ætatis 56, *An° Elizabeth Reginæ* 28, *et An° Dni.* 1586.

The windows of the chancel have been curiouſly painted; on the north ſide are fragments of the Salutation.

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Pigge is the preſent rector, preſented February 8, 1736, by Thomas Lobb Chute, eſq. the preſent patron, to the conſolidated rectory of South Pickenham St. Andrew with All Saints.

SOUTH-ACRE. This village, as well as Caſtle-acre and Weſt-acre, in the book of Doomſday, are wrote ſingly Acra, but is now called South-acre. It contains that pariſh of Acre which lies on the ſouthern ſide of the river Nar, which divides it from Caſtle-acre, and at the ſurvey was the land of the earl Warren, held of him by Wimer.

It is very probable that Wimer was the anceſtor of the Harſyke family, for ſir Eudo de Arſick held this lordſhip of the earl Warren about the reign of Henry I. by the ſervice of being caſtellan or keeper of his caſtle at Acre or Caſtle-acre.

In this family the lordſhip continued, and they were conſiderable benefactors to the abbey of Caſtle-acre.

In the 13th of Edward III. 1339, ſir John Harſyke was high ſheriff of Norfolk.

South-acre

South-acre, in the reign of Edward I. was in ſir Roger Harſyke. In this family it continued till after the reign of Henry V. when it came by marriage to the Dorwards, thence to the Fotheringays, and by marriage to Nicholas Beaupre, eſq. of Beauprehall in Outwell.

Edmund Beaupre, eſq. his ſon and heir, left four daughters and co-heirs; Dorothy, the youngeſt, married to ſir Robert Bell, lord chief baron of the Exchequer in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and had this manor, &c. aſſigned to her. By ſir Robert ſhe had ſir Edmund Bell, who died in 1607.

In this family it continued till it was ſold to ſir Edward Barkham, knt. lord mayor of London in 1621; and in 1703, Dorothy, Frances and Jane, daughters and co-heirs of ſir William Barkham, bart. conveyed it to Andrew Fountaine, eſq. and ſo to his ſon ſir Andrew Fountaine, knt. and Brigg Price Fountaine, eſq. of Narford, is the preſent lord.

The ſcite of the old hall, the ſeat of the Harſykes, may be obſerved at this day, in a cloſe north-eaſt of the church; it ſtands near the river, and was moated round: it is now covered with wood and buſhes, but the foundations are to be ſeen. Oppoſite to this manor-houſe ſtood a free chapel, now alſo demoliſhed, founded by the Harſykes for their private uſe, and the chaplains were preſented by them.

Narburgh's Manor. Beſides the aforeſaid manor belonging to the earl Warren, part of the king's manor of Sporle extended itſelf into this town, and was held, or farmed of the king by Godric at the ſurvey.

In

In the 17th of Edward IV. 1477, it was the inheritance of Cecily, wife of John Bocking, daughter and co-heir of William de Narburgh, and in the north aile of the church is to be ſeen the ſhield of Narburgh at this day. The ſaid Cecily dying without iſſue, the manor deſcended to Henry Spelman, of Narburgh, who married Elizabeth, her ſiſter and co-heir; and in the 3d of Richard III. 1485, Henry Spelman was lord.

After this we find it united to the other lordſhip; and in the 25th of Elizabeth, 1583, was in the poſſeſſion of the Bells, and it continues united at this time.

The priors of Caſtle-acre, Sporle and Weſt-acre, were taxed for temporalities here.

The church of South-acre is dedicated to St. George: it has a nave, a north aile, and a chancel, with a tower at the end of the nave, all built of flint ſtones and boulder, and covered with lead: the nave is about forty-four feet in length, and, with the north aile, about thirty in breadth, and has a good roof of oak covered with lead.

At the upper end of the north aile is a chapel, parted by a wooden ſcreen painted, on the eaſt ſide of which, in the chapel, adjoining to the north wall, is a tombſtone, raiſed about a foot and a half from the ground, and thereon lies the effigy of a Knight Templar in his military veſt, croſs-legg'd, his hands conjoined at his breaſt, with a great broad belt and a ſword, and a lion couchant at his feet, all of ſtone. There is no inſcription or arms, but it is moſt likely in memory of ſir Eudo Harſyke, the firſt of that name, for the monument beſpeaks great antiquity.

The

The Templars were habited in white, and their uppermoſt garment was of red cloth, with a croſs pattee on their left ſhoulder, and to ſhew that they are not aſhamed of the doctrine of the Croſs, they are pourtrayed and carved, with their legs forming a ſaltire croſs, in armour, with the habit abovementioned over it; and their ſword hanging from a broad belt buckled over their veſt or inward habit, as in this monument: ſometimes they are repreſented in armour, with their hands forming the ſame croſs, having ſomething like a torce or rope, cloſe twiſted about their limbs, with ſwords in their hands, and ſometimes a plain long ſtaff, with a croſs pattee on the head.

This is called the chapel of the Aſſumption of our bleſſed Lady, and ſome years paſt here was in a window the effigy of ſir John Harſyke, the founder, in compleat armour, on his knees, and hands conjoined, and at his right hand the arms of Harſyke, impaling gul. a feſs between three leopards heads jeſſant fleurs de lys, or, the arms of Dryby; near him alſo was the effigy of his lady on her knees, and at her left hand her arms in a ſingle ſhield. There were alſo the arms of Calthorpe impaling Walcote.

The eaſtern part of this chapel is taken in, and fenced with iron rails, by the Barkhams, who made it their burial-place, and have a vault here.

On the pavement on the left hand as you enter, lies a marble grave-ſtone near the wall, on which are the portraitures in braſs of a man and woman, with their right hands joined, the woman on the right hand, the man on the left; the man in compleat armour, and on his breaſt the arms of Harſyke, and near his head the creſt of turkey feathers in an hoop

as above-mentioned, and at his feet a lion couchant. The woman in an antique dress of that age; on her vest are her own arms, on the right side, ermine a maunch gules, Calthorpe, and on her left side the arms of her husband, and at her feet is a dog couchant. On a rim of brass that goes round the stone is this inscription,

Hic jacet Dns' Johes' Harsick Miles ejusdem Hon'nis tertius, qui obiit secundo die Septembris An° Dni Mccclxxxix. cujus anime propitietur Deus Amen, et Domina Katherina uxor.

This sir John married Catherine, daughter and sole heir of sir Bartholomew Calthorpe, knt. of Gestingthorpe, whose father, sir Bartholomew, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of sir John de Gestingthorpe, of Essex, and by reason of her inheritance, assumed the arms of Gestingthorpe, ermine a maunch gules, and in a window adjoining is the same shield still remaining.

Near to this, in the north wall, is a marble stone fixed, and thus inscribed:

Hic jacet Penelope, filia Domini Edwardi Barkham Baronetti, et Franciscæ Uxoris suæ, quæ quidem Penelope, Ætate Puellula, sed Prudentia, Pietate, Virtute Matrona, omnibus satis, Parentibus nimis, et Deo maxime chara, terras reliquit, ad Nuptias Agni vocata Julii 11, 1678, *Annoq; Ætatis suæ, Octavo.*

At the east end of this chapel, against the north wall, is a very rich and stately altar monument, of marble and alabaster, ornamented with several death's heads, bones, &c. in basso relievo; on this rests a large black marble slab, supported at each corner by

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a column of black marble of the Dorick order; on this ſlab lies a matt or baſs of alabaſter curiouſly carved, and on that lie the ſtatues of ſir Edward Barkham and his lady, on their backs, in their full length and proportions in alabaſter, ſir Edward in in armour, and (what is ſomewhat incompatible) with his ſcarlet gown, and gold chain about his neck, as lord mayor of London, over his armour; ſo that the ſtatuary was of the ſame opinion with the Roman orator, *Cedant Arma Togæ*. He has alſo a book in his right hand, and reſts his head on a cuſhion: his lady is in a dreſs agreeable to the age ſhe lived in, her hands acroſs, and reſts her head on a cuſhion. At the head and foot of this monument are the effigies of two ſons and three daughters, all kneeling on cuſhions.

To this monument is a wall piece of the ſame materials, on the ſummit of which is this ſhield; arg. three pallets gul. over all a chevron or. Barkham, and under it this motto,

DILIGENTIA, FORTUNÆ MATER:

On each ſide of this is a figure; that on the right hand repreſenting victory, with a laurel crown in her right hand, and on the pedeſtal that ſupports her, Barkham impaling quarterly in the firſt and fourth, arg. on a pale ſable three croſſes pattee, or. in a bordure engrailed of the ſecond, Crouch, in the ſecond and third arg. on a chevron ſab. three helmets cloſed, or, Scott. The figure on the left hand is a ſkeleton repreſenting death, and on the pedeſtal the arms of Crouch and Scott quarterly, and by theſe figures are two hour-glaſſes with wings. About this monument hang ſeveral banners and

ſtreamers with the aforeſaid arms; but here is no epitaph or inſcription on it.

This ſir Edward Barkham was lord mayor of London, in the 19th of James I. he was ſon of Edward Barkham, of this town, eſq. and was created baronet of this town, June 28, 1623, being a native of this village: he married Jane daughter to John Crouch, eſq. of Cornybery in Hertfordſhire, by Joan daughter and heir of John Scott, of London.

The creſt of Barkham on the iron work that incloſes the tomb, is two arms embraced, or, hands proper, ſupporting a ſheaf of arrows arg. in a rye band gul.

At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a little low ſquare tower, of flint, with quoins and embattlements of free-ſtone, in which hang three bells, on the ſecond is this inſcription; *In multis Annis Reſonet Campana Johannis;* it being dedicated to St. John. On the third, *As God will, ſo be it.*

The chancel is ſeparated from the nave of the church by a wooden ſcreen, ornamented with pillars of the Dorick order, erected at the charge of ſir Edward Barkham aforeſaid, as appears from his arms, &c. This chancel is in length about thirty, and about eighteen feet in breadth: on the middle of the area lies a marble ſtone, on the upper part of it, on a braſs plate, is the portraiture of the Virgin Mary, with the child Jeſus in her arms. Here was alſo on it the portraiture of a prieſt on his knees, in his robes, and this inſcription on a braſs plate:

Orate pro anima Domini Thome Leman, quondam Rectoris iſtius Eccleſie qui obiit x Die Menſis Junii. An° Dni Mccccxxxiiii; cuius anime propitietur Deus.

At the weſt end is a free-ſtone, fixed in the wall, thus inſcribed:

"Aug. 1725, the Rev. Mr. William Brocle-
"bank, rector, new paved this chancel with
"ſtone, at his own charge, had the grave-ſtones
"cleaned and laid even, removed none that had
"any inſcription, but gave three plain ones to be
"laid in the body of the church."

The communion table is incloſed with rails and baliſters, and has an aſcent of one ſtep to it of free-ſtone; againſt the eaſt wall are the commandments in letters of gold, and the portraitures of Moſes and Aaron, the gift of Mrs. Fountaine, mother of ſir Andrew. In the eaſt window is the ſhield of Harſyke painted on glaſs.

To this church there belongs a large ſilver cup, and two ſilver patines or ſalvers; on the cup is this inſcription;

"The gift of the lady Jane Barkham, widow,
"to the church of Southacre in the county of
"Norfolk, 1642," and the arms of Barkham impaling Crouch, and the ſalvers have the ſame arms.

The preſent rector is the Rev. James Thom, a man of much learning and taſte, and to whom the late ſir Andrew Fountaine, knt. bequeathed the rectory on the deceaſe of the Rev. Mr. King, and to which he was accordingly preſented by his heir, Brigg Price Fountaine, eſq. the preſent patron, or his guardians, the truſtees of the late Brigg Price, eſq. on the vacancy in 1756.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 10l. 18s. 1d. and in this parish was a house of lepers, with a church dedicated to St. Bartholomew. The place where this church and house of lepers stood, is now known by the name of Bartholomew Hill in Southacre, which lies on the road from Swaffham to Castleacre, where some remains of a little pedling fair is still kept on St. Bartholomew's Day, and here some people digging lately for stone, found several human bones, sculls, &c.

The house called Southacre-hall, a seat of the Barkhams and lord Richardson, was sold lately by William Jermy, esq. and Elizabeth, only sister and heir to William lord Richardson, his wife, to sir Andrew Fountaine, knt.

SPORLE, with GREAT and LITTLE PAGRAVE. Sporle lies about three miles north-east of Swaffham. Here was formerly a priory, and the prior was patron of the vicarage.

The church of Sporle is a lofty and spacious building of flint, &c. dedicated to the Virgin Mary; it has its nave, and north and south ailes, covered with lead. At the west end of the nave stands the tower, of flint, with quoins and embattlements of free-stone, and therein are three bells; to this tower there has been annexed a large porch, embattled with free-stone, and over that a room, probably for some anchorite or recluse, but it is now in ruins and uncovered.

In the 28th of Edward I. 1300, we have an account in Norwich Doomsday, that Sporle, with Pagrave Parva, was appropriated to the prior of Sporle, who had the great tithes, and the vicar the small; that

that it was valued with its portions, beſides the vicarage, at ſeven marks, the portion of the monks of Florence at ten marks, that of the monks of Roan at 20s. Peter-pence 18d.

Of Pagrave the prior of Sporle was patron; the vicar had twelve pariſhioners, and had the great and ſmall tithes, and a grange with five acres.

In 1349 the king preſented, on account of the war with France, this being a priory alienated, and from this time the king conſtantly preſented, till it was granted to Eton college.

Sporle is a vicarage, and the rectory is Little Pagrave: the great tithes are in Mr. Bartholomew Nelſon, a merchant at Lynn.

Sir Matthew Holworthy, lord of the manor of Sporle, &c. gave to the town 600l. to purchaſe an eſtate, the product of which was to be aſſigned and given to the vicar, for the preaching a ſermon here in the afternoon all the year, excepting the winter quarter; with which an eſtate was purchaſed, now rented at above 60l. per ann. Mrs. Holworthy is the preſent lady of the manor.

Sporle Priory. Near to the church of Sporle ſtood the priory, dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, but of the foundation there is no certain account; though Henry II. who was earl of Anjou, was probably the founder. It was a cell to the monaſtery of St. Florence at Saumers, in the dioceſe of Anjou in France, of the order of St. Bennet.

There is recorded the following very curious bequeſt of James Cooke, formerly of this pariſh.—

" James Cooke, of Sporle, purpoſing to viſit the " Holy Pilgrimage of Rome, made his will in 1506: " Item, I will that myn executors, as ſone as it may " come to ther knouleg, that I am dede, that they " make a *drynkyng for my ſoul* to the value of 6s. 8d. " in the church of Sporle.

This priory was diſſolved in the parliament held at Leiceſter, in the 2d of Henry V. 1424, at which parliament all the alien priories throughout England were ſuppreſſed, and given to the king and his heirs for ever; but as few of theſe lands were alienated at this time to the laity, till the general ſuppreſſion of monaſteries in the reign of Henry VIII. but were for the moſt part continued to ſacred uſes, ſo this priory, with all its dependencies, were given by Henry VI. to his college of Eton upon the founding of it, in the 19th year of his reign, and has continued in that college to this day.

The provoſt and fellows of Eton college are patrons of this church, and in 1773 preſented the Rev. John Francis to the rectory of Sporle, conſolidated with Pagrave Parva.

This town was royal demeſne, and the Confeſſor gave it to Ralph earl of Norfolk (who forfeited it by his rebellion againſt William the Conqueror) at the great ſurvey; it was managed and held for that king by Godric.

SPORLE MANOR. At the ſurvey Godric held it for the king, and it remained royal demeſne till king Henry I.

In the reign of Henry VIII. ſir William Paſton was lord of this and Eaſt-hall, alias Wotton's.

In

In 1611 ſir William Paſton died ſeized of it, held as it is then found of the counteſs of Arundel, as of her caſtle of Riſing in Norfolk, in ſoccage, and 6d. rent; and in the Paſton family it continued in the reign of Charles I. but in 1660 John Thetford was lord, and after him ſir Matthew Holworthy and his ſon, and Mrs. Holworthy poſſeſſes it at preſent.

GREAT PAGRAVE. The beruite, or hamlet, that belonged to this manor, which was always called Pagrave, was half a mile long and five furlongs broad, and paid its gelt or tax with Sporle, to which it always belonged, as it now doth, it being always part of that pariſh: it never had any church or place of public worſhip belonging to it, but its mother church of Sporle; but ſoon after the conqueſt, part of it was ſeparated, and became the village called Little Pagrave.

The manor of Eaſt-hall in Great Pagrave is joined to Sporle manor.

Woodhall in Pagrave Magna and Parva, conſiſted partly of lands belonging to the earl Warren's fee in Pagrave Parva.

In 1444, William Waynfleet, provoſt of Eton college, granted to John Paſton, Edmund Paſton, &c. all the goods and chattels, rents and profits of the lands, tenements, &c. which belonged to him and that college here, on account of an outlawry againſt John Halman and Henry Halman, of Sporle, and in 1451, Henry Halman granted the ſame to John Paſton, eſq. who died ſeiſed of this lordſhip in the 6th of Edward IV. After this it paſſed from the Paſtons, as is obſerved in the manor of Sporle.

The

The leet of Pagrave Magna is in the lord of the hundred; leet-fee is 14d. per annum.

LITTLE PAGRAVE, hath been for many ages in the family who took their name from this lordſhip and ſeat of theirs, to which one of the family built a chapel, and fixed the tithes of his manor to it, ſo that it became parochial, and was a long time independent of Sporle, till the prior there obtained its advowſon, and got it conſolidated to Sporle.

The leet of Pagrave Parva is in the lord of the hundred; leet-fee is 4d. per annum.

STRANGE'S, or PAGRAVE PARVA MANOR. William earl Warren held land here in the Conqueror's time.

This lordſhip has been in the family of the Pagraves (who took their name from it) for many centuries. In the reign of Henry II. John, ſon of Thomas de Pagrave, gave to the monks of Caſtle-acre a rent of 4d. per ann.

In 1571 John Pagrave was lord, and ſir Auguſtine Pagrave, bart. died ſeiſed of it.

About the year 1731, the whole manor was purchaſed in, and there were no out-rents but 36s. 8d. payable yearly to the ſheriff of Norfolk. At ſir Richard's death, it was ordered by decree in chancery to be ſold by his heirs, with the manor of Norwood Barningham.

The heirs of ſir Richard were the four daughters of Samuel Smith, late of Colkirk, eſq. deceaſed, his mother being Uritha Palgrave, daughter of ſir John

John Palgrave, grandfather of ſir Richard, and father of ſir Auſtin, viz.

1. Catherine, married to Thomas Bendiſh, eſq. of Yarmouth, who is dead.

2. Uritha, married to —— Offley, of Derbyſhire, eſq. ſhe being dead, John Offley, eſq. is her ſon and heir.

3. Theodoſia, who married Samuel Sparrowe, of Lavenham in Suffolk, gent.

4. Lucy, married firſt to —— Pett, of Dedenham in Suffolk, gent. and after to Jonas Rolfe, of Lynn Regis, gent.

The Rev. John Francis was preſented to the rectory of Pagrave Parva, conſolidated with Sporle, by Eton college, in 1773.

SWAFFHAM. This town, ſays Blomefield, may take its name from *Swedan*, a *ſwath*, being a long ridge of meadow ground, as a *Selion* is a ridge of arable ground, falling on each ſide, and this anſwers its ſcite, ſo that *Swatham* is a town on a ridge of hills.

Harold, ſon of Godwin earl of Kent, was lord of this town in the beginning of the reign of Edward the Confeſſor, from whom it came to the Conqueror, who gave it to Ralph Guader, or Waher, earl of Norfolk, who was lord here, as we learn from Doomſday.

Swaffham, when the lordſhip of Alan, earl of Richmond, was royal demeſne, and after belonged to

to the earldom of Norfolk: it was a mile long and as much broad, and had at the ſurvey a mill and the moiety of another, and one fiſhpond or fiſhery. It was accounted for as two manors, and valued at the ſurvey at 16l. and there were 20s. per ann. more belonging to it.

This Ralph, earl of Norfolk, entering into a conſpiracy with other lords againſt the Conqueror, loſt all his poſſeſſions, and fled into France, and the Conqueror gave this lordſhip, &c. to his ſon-in-law Alan Rufus, alias Fergaunt, earl of Richmond in Yorkſhire, who married his daughter Conſtance.

Earl Alan died in 1093, and was buried near the ſouth door of the abbey of St. Edmund in Suffolk, before the altar of St. Nicholas.

The lordſhip of this town being thus veſted in the earls of Richmond, it was looked upon as a member of, and went along with that honour ſucceſſively.

About the 17th of king John, this town had a market granted to it, which is continued to this time; and in the 37th of Henry III. 1253, we find that Peter de Savoy, earl of Richmond, uncle to queen Eleanor, and lord of the town, had a confirmation of this grant of a market weekly on Saturday, and alſo of two fairs here yearly.

In the 3d year of Edward I. 1275, John de Dreux duke of Britain and Richmond, was lord, and held the manor *in capite;* and the church of Swaffham, which was in the gift or preſentation of the earl of Richmond, was then valued at 8ol. per ann.

In

In 1308, John de Britannia, earl of Richmond, was lord, and had a confirmation of two fairs here, and the market.

In 1425, Ralph Nevile, earl of Weſtmoreland, died ſeiſed of this manor and advowſon, and the honour of Richmond, which he had given him by Henry IV. on his acceſſion to the crown, and held it for life; the reverſion thereof to the king's ſon, John duke of Bedford, with the county of Richmond, the caſtle, honour, and ſeigniory, who in 1435 died ſeiſed of the manor and advowſon of the church of Swaffham, alſo of the liberty of keeping a court here, called Shire-Court, from month to month, belonging to the honour of Richmond.

In 1456, Edmund of Hadham, earl of Richmond, the king's half brother, died ſeiſed of two parts of this lordſhip and advowſon, held *in capite*.

In 1473, Edward IV. granted this lordſhip to George, duke of Clarence, his brother Henry, earl of Richmond, then being in baniſhment; but on the acceſſion of Henry VII. to the crown, it became parcel of the crown lands, and was held by Henry VIII. queen Mary and queen Elizabeth, who in the 26th year of her reign recites, that ſhe by her letters patent under the great ſeal, dated the 4th of May, 1570, in the 12th year of her reign, did demiſe to Philip Strelly, gent. then one of the captains of the village of Berwick, amongſt other things, all and ſingular the lands and demeſnes of the lordſhip or manor of Swaffham, and the warren of coneys, called Spinney Park, &c. and to ſir Henry Bedingfield, the lordſhip and manor of Swaffham, except courts baron and leets of the ſaid manor: the queen therefore, on the ſurrender of that leaſe, demiſeth to

Robert

Robert Chabenor and Ann his wife, and Payne their ſon, all the premiſſes aforeſaid, which are parcel of the honour of Richmond, and of Richmond fee, by the name of the manor of Swaffham, (except as before excepted) to hold to them and their heirs ſucceſſively, paying for the warren and land called Spinney Park, 6l. 10s. per ann. and for the demeſne lands and premiſſes, 7l. 10s. and the beſt beaſt for an herriot.

In 1620, we have much knowledge of the ſtate of the town, from the verdict of the Jury, given at the court of the manor then held, viz. "That the "freeholders hold of the manor by ſocage, fealty, "and free-rent, and pay for free-rent 4d. per acre, "and for every acre of copyhold 3d. per acre; for "every copyhold meſſuage 9d. That the copyhol-"ders may make leaſes of their copyhold eſtates "for twenty-one years, without licence of the lord, "and on admittance 2d. per acre. To their know-"ledge, there never was any manor-houſe, but many "acres of demeſne lands, and Edward Heye and "Chriſtopher Watſon were farmers thereof; there "is another manor called Haſpals and Whitſands, "which was granted by king Edward VI. to certain "perſons and their heirs, under which grant, Robert "Halman, gent. &c. who have the ſaid manor, "keep court, &c. no mill now belongs to the ma-"nor, but two newly built, and they know not of "any fiſhing or fowling; the lord hath weyfs, ſtrays "and felons goods, now no fair but a market where-"in ſix ſcore and thirteen ſtalls, and fourteen ſhops, "and the toll and profits, taken by the bayliff of "the manor; the lord biſhop of Norwich hath the "right of preſentation to the vicarage, and Nicho-"las Bate, clerk, is incumbent; the vicarage-houſe "is in much decay, the impropriation is worth 100l.

"per

" per ann. John Stallon, gent. is the former of it. " The copyholders of inheritance uſed to top, lop, " cut, ſtub, and fell down their wood, and their " timber trees, ſtanding on their copyhold lands, " and to pull their houſes down at pleaſure; the lord " hath many great commons, &c, and the tenants " are not ſtinted in their common; the lord and his " farmers have kept ſheep on part of the demeſnes " and commons, about 1400, till of late, that ſome " part of the demeſnes, about eighty acres, have been " ploughed, and 1400 ſheep kept, to the damage of " the tenants. There are two town-houſes, parcel " of the manor of Aſpal's and Whitſand's, one for " the relief of the poor, the other for the clerk of " the pariſh to live in. That the king's majeſty was " lately owner of the manor, but now the prince."

Sir Edward Coke farmed this lordſhip of Charles I. in the beginning of his reign, but it was ſoon after in the poſſeſſion of ſir Edward Barkham, lord mayor of London in 1621, who in 1639 procured a grant for three fairs to be annually held here, and they are held to this day, on May the 12th, (old May-Day) July the 21ſt, and November the 14th. May the 12th is a great fair for ſheep, horſes, and cattle, and for hiring of ſhepherds.

From the Barkhams this lordſhip came by marriage to the Yallops, and the late Edward Yallop, who took the name of Spelman, of High-houſe, Weſt-acre, eſq. enjoyed it for many years, after a long and expenſive conteſt with a Mr. Nath, of London, who claimed it either as a debt at play, or as a mortgage, uncertain which, and from whom the late Mr. Spelman recovered it by a tedious courſe of law, and by uncommon perſeverance and fortitude. He ſold this lordſhip to the late Richard Hammond, eſq. of Wooton,

ton, whose nephew, Anthony Hammond, esq. of High-house, West-acre, is the present lord, is a widower, and has one only son.

The custom of the manor is to the eldest son.

Aspal's Manar. This manor in 1239 was held of the earl of Richmond by Olive de Aula, who held it of the king *in capite*.

After different possessors in different reigns, it came in the year 1475, in the reign of Edward IV. to Simon Blake.

This Simon Blake, by will dated December 10, 1487, gives his manors, called Haspald's and Whitefonde's, to be settled on feoffees, to find for ever an honest and secular chaplain, not instituted into any vicarage, rectory, or free chapel, or other spiritual benefice, but to officiate, and daily say matins, the hours, mass at seven every morning, and vespers, and all divine offices; and on all festivals, and whenever service is sung by note, to assist in the church, with other chaplains and clerks, in singing in the choir there, and to pray especially for the health of his soul, his wife Joan's, his parents, Thomas Blake, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, Robert Heigham, esq. Margaret, Richard, and John Aleyn, John Bocking, and Joan late wife of Thomas Bocking, esq. and all his benefactors, and faithful deceased, to be called Blake's chauntry priest, and his chauntry was the south transept chapel of the church of Swaffham, where he lies buried under a marble stone near the altar of our Lady of Pity, and the said altar to be called the Altar of the Chauntry of Simon Blake.

This

This manor continued thus ſettled till the diſſolution of chauntrys, in the reign of Edward VI. and in the 3d year of that king, he granted it, with a foldcourſe and about ninety acres of land, to John Wright and William Walter, for the uſe of the town.

In 1627, May 16, an inquiſition was taken before ſir William Yelverton, bart. ſir Henry Bedingfield, knt. ſir John Hare, knt. and Thomas Athow, ſerjeant at law, commiſſioners for charitable uſes, when the jury found, that the late diſſolved chauntry of Swaffham, founded by Simon Blake, and the lordſhip and manor of Haſpal and Whitſand, with the foldcourſe and ſixty acres of land in Swaffham, with the Church-croft, alias the Shooting-croft, was by Edward VI. by patent, dated the 26th of July, in the 3d of his reign, for 126l. granted to John Wright and William Walter, and their heirs and aſſignees, to pay yearly to nine poor people* in Swaffham 56s. and that the purchaſe was made with the common ſtock of the town, for the repairing of the church, maintenance of the poor, repairing the highways, common wells, &c. that Wright died, and Walter ſurvived, after whoſe death his ſon William Walter aſſigned the truſt by deed, dated the 27th of May, the 5th of Edward VI. to William Orrell, &c. who infeoffed by deed, dated the 27th of September, in the 35th of Elizabeth, Robert Halman, &c. as feoffees, to have the government of the lands, manors, &c. and it continues at this preſent time in the hands of feoffees, in the ſaid town.

John Reader held this chauntry at the diſſolution of it, and had a penſion from Edward VI. of 5l.

* The king's alms are now paid to poor widows of the town.

per ann. which he held in 1553; he being the laſt chauntry prieſt.

WHITSAND'S MANOR was poſſeſſed by Hugh de Whytſand, in the reign of Edward I. and afterwards this manor was annexed to that of Aſpal, and had the ſame lords.

The fine of theſe manors is only an additional year's quit-rent to every new tenant, in the nature of a relief.

SALTREY, SAWTREY MANOR, alias PRIORS-THORNS, or as it is now called FRIARS-THORNS. This manor took its name from the abbey of Sawtrey in Huntingdonſhire, the abbot of which held lands and a manor here and in Narford at the diſſolution.

In 1538, Henry VIII. gave this manor to ſir Richard Cromwell, who alienes it, by licence of the ſame king, in the 30th year of his reign, with all the appurtenances in Swaffham, Narford and Guthlake Stow, to ſir John Croſts, of Weſt Stow in Suffolk; from him it came to Ralph Chamberlain, with the manor of Prior's or Friar's Thorns, with the appurtenances and liberty of a fold in Swaffham.

In the 15th of Elizabeth, licence was granted to Ralph Chamberlain to alienate it to Thomas and John Ives, and their heirs; and ſoon after it was conveyed to Richard Beckham, eſq. by the name of the manor late of John Croſts, by ſir Ralph Chamberlain and his truſtees, ſir John Croſts and Margaret his wife, and Thomas Croſts, eſq. their ſon, having releaſed it to ſir Ralph.

From

From the Beckhams it came to the Fountaines. The late ſir Andrew Fountaine, vice chamberlain to the princeſs of Wales, purchaſed the whole manor and all the lands belonging to it.

Brigg Price Fountaine, eſq. who ſucceeded to the eſtates of ſir Andrew, being the only ſon of his niece, Miſs Clent, (daughter of colonel Clent) by captain Price, is the preſent lord. In the life-time of ſir Andrew, captain Price and lady reſided at Friars-Thorns for many years.

The ſcite of it is about a mile and half weſt of Swaffham, on a very high hill, ſurveying the country at a great diſtance: the ſituation is clean and pleaſant, and formerly the monks of Sawtrey had two or three of their fraternity reſiding here, it being a ſort of hotel or houſe of reception for pilgrims that travelled this way to Walſingham, or from thence to St. Thomas a Becket at Canterbury, the way leading croſs the country from hence ſtill retaining the name of Becket's Way.

In antient days the earls of Richmond had a priſon in this town, and at this time here is a houſe of correction, or bridewell, which was erected in the 41ſt year of queen Elizabeth, for the hundred of South Greenhoe, Weyland, Grimſhoe, Shropham, Guilteroſs, Freebridge Marſhland, and citra Lynn, and Clackcloſe.

Swaffham is ſituated upon a riſing ground, in a fine open country. The ſituation is remarkably healthy, and many perſons annually are recommended by phyſicians to reſide in this village, for the benefit of the air. To the ſouth and weſt, and north-weſt, is an extenſive heath, much admired by gen-

tlemen who are fond of courſing, and equally ſo by gentlemen of the turf, the race-ground upon this heath being equal, if not ſuperior, (after Newmarket) to moſt of the race-grounds in England.

Swaffham races are annually held in September, about the 25th or 26th of that month, at which time there is generally a great meeting of the nobility from Newmarket, and of the gentlemen and ladies in the county. The races continue for three days: there are three fifty pound plates by ſubſcription, and a gold cup annually given by the earl of Orford, to be run for by three year old colts or fillies, one heat of a mile. Two ſtewards are annually choſe at the meeting for the year enſuing, who have the direction of every thing relative to the races, and are generally named the laſt day of the meeting. There are aſſemblies the firſt and third nights for the ladies, and frequently a concert of muſic the intermediate night. A new aſſembly-room has been lately erected on the weſt ſide of the market-hill, and aſſemblies, by ſubſcription, are held there every month in the year. The market-hill is ſpacious, and capable of containing a great many booths at the time of the fairs. The market is conſiderable, and kept every week on the Saturday.

Beſides the annual horſe-races in September, great courſing matches for greyhounds have been lately eſtabliſhed, which uſually take place in the months of November and March, and laſt for a week. A lady patroneſs is appointed. The matches are never made for more than a guinea, though bets bye are frequently laid. The matches are regularly entered, and the greyhounds names, play or pay, half-forfeit, &c. put down in the book, in the ſame order as the running

running horſes at Newmarket, and obſerved with the ſame nicety and diſtinction.

The inhabitants of the town ſtill enjoy privileges beyond their neighbours, the town being ancient demeſne.

Charles I. in the 13th year of his reign, on the 29th of March, 1637, exemplified the privileges of ancient demeſne manors, that they were free from payment of toll, and from contribution to the expences of knights of parliament, not to be put in aſſizes upon juries, or any recognizances, but only in the court of the manor; the manors of Swaffham market, Narford, North and South Pickenham, Pagrave, Bouldon, and Creſſingham Magna, in this hundred, are certified to be ancient demeſne by the chamberlains of the Exchequer, and command is given to let them enjoy thoſe privileges, unleſs they held lands and tenements of another tenure, for which they may be put on juries at the aſſizes.

In the pariſh of Swaffham, north-weſt of the town about half a mile, by the Lynn road, was an hamlet, in ancient days called Stow, Guthlake's Stow, from a chapel that was there, dedicated to St. Guthlac. In the regiſter of the abbey of Caſtleacre, now in the library of the right hon. the earl of Oxford, this place is often mentioned, and is now by corruption called Good Luck's Cloſes. The chapel was ſtanding in the beginning of the reign of Edward IV. anno 1464.

Swaffham, from the misfortune of a dreadful fire ſome few years ſince, has now many new houſes erected in it, and is perhaps the moſt beautiful village in the county of Norfolk. There were many

good houſes in it before the fire, and the ſituation has always been admired.

The leet of this town is in the lord of the manor.

The church of Swaffham is built in the form of a cathedral, having a nave, north and ſouth ailes, a chancel, and two tranſept chapels, making it in the ſhape of a croſs. It is a lofty, magnificent Gothic pile, of a very venerable aſpect, being the largeſt and moſt beautiful pariſh church in the neighbourhood: the whole is covered with lead, and built for the moſt part with flint, free-ſtone, brick, &c. The upper part of the nave is coped, and embattled with free-ſtone; at the weſt end of which is a ſtately large and lofty four-ſquare tower, built entirely of free-ſtone, and embattled; about the water-table, and under the battlements, are two ſhields, in one of which are the croſs-keys, and in the other two ſwords a-croſs, the emblems of St. Peter and St. Paul, to whom the church is dedicated.

At each corner of the battlements ſtands a pinnacle of carved ſtone, and on the ſummit of the tower was a curious turret of wood, covered with lead, in which hung the ſaints bell; round this, in the form of a lanthorn, ſtood ſeveral tall ſhafts covered with lead, and bearing on their heads a weather-cock*. In this tower, which by its heighth is ſeen many miles round, hang eight muſical bells; and there is a clock with a dial plate on the weſt ſide.

This

* In 1777, this wooden ſpire, or turret, was taken down, and a new one of a lighter conſtruction erected, at a conſiderable expence.

This tower was begun in 1507, and finiſhed in 1510; ſir Robert Lovell, knt. of this town, and John Oxburgh and John Newel, church-reeves, laid the firſt ſtone, on which was DEO SACRUM.

At the entrance on the weſt ſide of the tower, is a neat large folding-door of oak, lately erected; over this, on the tower, are ſeveral niches for images, two of a very great length, one on each ſide of the great weſt window: from the weſt door to the entrance into the chancel is about forty-one yards, which is equal to the length of the nave of the cathedral of St. David's, and the breadth of the nave, together with the two ſide ailes within the walls, is about ſeventeen yards.

The vault of this church, and the ſide ailes, are ſupported by fine ſlender pillars, conſiſting each of four ſmall pilaſters joined together, and forming fourteen lofty curious turned arches, ſeven on a ſide; over theſe arches are twenty-eight neat light windows, fourteen on a ſide, two over each arch. The roof is wonderfully beautiful, of oak, neatly wrought and carved.

At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a ſtone font, with an high wainſcot cover, and as you aſcend, on the pavement lies a grey marble ſtone, but the braſſes are reaved.

As the mural monuments and grave-ſtones in this church are numerous, and chiefly unintereſting, we ſhall content ourſelves with mentioning but a few of them.

About the middle of the ſouth aile is a little chapel, thirteen feet in length, and about eight in breadth,

with a large window to the fouth. This is the chapel of Corpus Chrifti, founded by John Pain and Catherine his wife, who are there interred.

At the upper end of this aile lies a large grey marble ftone, with the portraiture of a perfon in complete armour; on his furcoat are the arms of Touchet and Audley, quarterly, in memory of fir John Audley, of this town, who lived and died in the reign of Henry VIII. and the fame fhield is painted on the glafs in the window of the parlour in the vicar's houfe.

The nobility and gentry, in ancient days, wore over their armour rich furcoats of filk and fattin embroidery, as the heralds do at this day, whereon was curioufly wrought the arms of their houfe and family in their proper colours, &c. and fuch a coat the renowned lord Audley wore at the battle of Poictiers in France, Sept. 19, 1356.

This ftone had alfo the portraiture of his lady, and feveral fhields in brafs, &c. all which are reaved except part of one at the foot of the ftone, and on the left fide, which feems (being almoft obfcure) to be the only impalement of his lady, the other part being covered by a pew.

At the eaft end of the fouth aile is Blake's Chauntry, where the archdeacon's court is held.

The north aile of this church is fabulouſly faid to be built by one John Chapman, a tinker of this town; a ridiculous ſtory, and fit only to be related by ſuch writers as the authors of *Jack the Giant-Killer* and *Tom Hickathrift;* and it is wonderful it ſhould find a place in the Remembrances of ſir Roger

ger Twyſden, and the publications of that great antiquary Thomas Hearne.

As the tradition of this fooliſh ſtory ſtill exiſts with the inhabitants, it muſt not be omitted entirely, however abſurd. It is briefly this.

A Swaffham tinker dreamt he ſhould hear good news on London bridge. He went there, and was told, if he would dig under a certain tree in Swaffham in Norfolk deſcribed to him, he ſhould find a pot of money. He returned, and found the pot, and afterwards another. A ſubſcription taking place amongſt the inhabitants for re-building the north aile of the church, the tinker enquired the eſtimate, and ſubſcribed the whole of it, and afterwards built the preſent beautiful ſteeple,

Credat Judæus Apella. HOR.

And in teſtimony thereof, there was then his picture, with his wife and three children, in every window of the aile, with an inſcription running through the bottom of all thoſe windows, viz.

Orate pro bono Statu Johannis Chapman, —— Uxoris ejus, et Liberorum ſuorum, qui quidem Johannes hanc Alam cum feneſtris, tecto et ——fieri fecit.

There are few hiſtories of dreams to be relied on: the moſt authentic is that of ſir William Johnſon in America, the relation of which may make ſome amends to the reader for the recital of the above ridiculous ſtory.

Old Hendrick, the Indian ſachem, or king of the Iroquois, who ſerved under ſir William in the laſt war,

war, ſeeing ſome rich ſuits of laced cloaths at Johnſon's Hall upon the Mohawk river, ſoon after in converſation told ſir William, "He had had a "dream: he dreamt ſir William made him a pre-"ſent of one of thoſe rich ſuits of cloaths." Sir William the next day ſent one to him, and returning his viſit in a few weeks, ſir William told his old friend the ſachem, that "he had had a dream: he "dreamt that Hendrick had made him a preſent of "three thouſand acres of land that lay behind John-"ſon's Hall." Old Hendrick granted them, but at the ſame time, with a ſignificant ſmile, told ſir William, "He dreamed too hard for him, and he (old "Hendrick) muſt dream no more." Theſe lands are to this day called Sir William Johnſon's *dreaming* Lands.

That the north aile of this church was founded by John Chapman, who was churchwarden in 1462, is beyond diſpute; but that the founder was a pedlar, is very improbable. Mr. Parkin very properly reprobates this monkiſh legend, as a tradition favouring too much of the cloiſter.

In this aile is a large and loſty gallery, erected for the ſingers, the aſcent is by a ſtone ſtair-caſe in the wall adjoining, the way no doubt to the antient rood-loft. At the weſt end ſtands a very large fire-engine, with two keys in ſaltire painted on it, and the year 1706.

At the eaſt end of the nave ſtands the chancel; the arch here, and at the weſt end, are very grand and ſpacious, riſing almoſt to the ſummit of the roof of the church. It is in length about fifteen yards, and ſeven in breadth, and the roof is of oak, ſupported by angels.

Againſt

Againſt the north wall, near the communion table, is an arch in the wall, and under it, on an altar monument of ſtone, lies the effigy of John Botewright, D. D. maſter of Corpus Chriſti College in Cambridge, chaplain to Henry VI. rector of this pariſh, in his doctor's robes. On the body of this monument are four ſhields, one containing three cups, with the ſacramental wafer on the lips of each of them; a ſecond with the triangular emblem of the Trinity; theſe are to repreſent his office and calling of the prieſthood. The third ſhield bears three boats or barges, and the fourth has three wimbles or augurs; the two laſt are by way of rebus, and in alluſion to his name, *Boatright* or *Botewright*. This way of ſetting forth the office of the deceaſed, by ſome inſtrument, &c. is very antique: it was practiſed by the Greeks and Romans in the age of Homer: and in the age of Botewright, &c. nothing was more uſual than to tranſmit to poſterity the names of founders, benefactors, and perſons interred, by way of rebus, and hieroglyphical marks.

Dr. Botewright bequeathed legacies to the poor of Swaffham, and a croft to the town, called the Shooting Land, on which the preſent free-ſchool is built. He was the ſeventh maſter of Corpus Chriſti or Bennet College, to which he gave a manor in Overe, and a manor in Charteris in Cambridgeſhire, to found a fellow in that college. He was born in this town of Swaffham, and was proctor of the univerſity of Cambridge.

The preſent church was begun about the end of the reign of Edward IV. when the chancel was finiſhed, but the church was not completed till the reign of Henry VII. and the tower at the weſt end was not finiſhed till the year 1510.

On

On the north ſide of this chancel is the veſtry, in which is a library; the greateſt part of the books were the gift of the Spelmans, of Narburgh. Here is preſerved a manuſcript paper book, commonly called the Black Book of Swaffham, containing a terrier of the lands belonging to the church, an inventory of the veſtments, plate, &c.

There was a large gilt chalice, and two leſſer chalices; a cloth of gold tiſſue belonging to St. Nicholas' Altar, and an altar cloth of black velvet, and another of fine linen at Trinity Altar, given by Dr. Botewright, with much more fine plate and veſtments.

The general commemoration or maſs for the dead benefactors, was ſolemnized every Whitſunday, and the day following; maſs of requiem was ſung by note, eſpecially for Dr. Botewright, and then a long ſtring of benefactors were commemorated.

In the reign of Edward I. the earl of Richmond was patron of this church; the rector had then a manſion-houſe near to the church: the vicar had alſo a manſion-houſe near the church.

Peter Caverſham, in 1497, was the laſt rector here: for Henry VIII. patron of the church, by charter, dated at Weſtminſter the 12th of June, in the 18th year of his reign, granted to John, then abbot, and to the prior and convent of Weſtminſter, and their ſucceſſors, the advowſon and patronage of this rectory, in free alms, with licence to appropriate the ſame to them and their ſucceſſors, purſuant to which, the ſaid rectory was appropriated in the year 1503; and Henry VIII. in the 34th year of his reign, granted the rectory to the dean and chapter of Weſtminſter,

Weſtminſter, on the erection of that church into an epiſcopal ſee, to hold freely in pure alms, except 3l. 6s. 6d. paid yearly to the biſhop of Norwich, and 10s. to the archdeacon for procurations, and the impropriation is at this day in the church of Weſtminſter. Dr. Reuben Clarke, late archdeacon of Eſſex, had the leaſe of the impropriation, in which he was ſucceeded by his ſon.

There was from the moſt ancient times a vicar under the rector, preſented by him, ſo that the rectory was a *ſinecure*.

About the year 1550, the patronage of this vicarage was given to the biſhop of Norwich by Edward VI. and the biſhops of Norwich have collated ever ſince.

In 1748, Dr. Samuel Liſle, then biſhop of Norwich, collated his domeſtic chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Gilbert Bouchery, A. M. the preſent vicar, ſon of Weyman Bouchery, late rector of Blakenham ſuper Montem in Suffolk: he was born at Ipſwich, and was ſcholar and fellow at Clare-Hall in Cambridge. On his taking Swaffham, he voided the rectory of Llanymynech in Shropſhire, which he was collated to by biſhop Liſle, when on the ſee of St. Aſaph, of whoſe gift he now holds the prebendary of Meliden in the church of St. Aſaph, and the ſinecure rectory of Llanſanfraid in Montgomeryſhire.

Mr. Bouchery is a man of the greateſt worth and piety: a divine, whoſe learning and abilities are only exceeded by his exemplary conduct.

The vicarage is valued at 14l. 5s. 10d. in the king's books.

There

There are two ſmall manors in this town, known by the name of Haſpal's and Whiteſand's, the quit-rents of which, and other dues belonging to the ſame, the churchwardens receive for the uſe of the town.

Alſo an eſtate of about 50l. a year, which being formerly chauntry lands, was given to the town by Edward IV. and ſince confirmed by ſeveral royal grants, and is appropriated to the relief of nine poor widows, the reparation of the church, mending the highways, repairing the town-houſes and town-wells, ſome of which are fifty yards deep, and payment of the clerk and ſexton their wages.

Suſan Machin, widow, gave 12s. yearly to the churchwardens, for the uſe of twelve widows who take no collection.

Edward Chapman, gent. gave 10l. the intereſt for the poor, to be paid by the churchwardens.

Thomas Theodorick gave three dwellings for ſix poor people.

There is alſo an alms-houſe in Mangate-ſtreet.

There is now on the north ſide of the church-yard a houſe ſtanding towards the eaſtern part of it, the lower part for the uſe of the clerk of the pariſh church, and the upper part for the uſe of a ſchool-maſter, to be choſen by the miniſter and churchwardens, and the majority of the pariſhioners then preſent.

There is a free-ſchool lately built in the Camping Land, founded by Nicholas Hammond, gent. late of this pariſh, with a dwelling for the maſter, and the

the intereſt of 500l. (until a purchaſe can be made) for teaching twenty boys: the choice of the maſter is in the following truſtees, the vicar of Swaffham, the rectors of Necton, Great Creſſingham, Aſhill and Hilburgh, and their ſucceſſors for ever.

Over the ſchool-houſe door are the creſt and arms of Hammond. Creſt on a mound vert. a dove riſing with an olive-branch in its mouth proper. Or, on a chevron ſable, voided az. three martlets of the field.

In 1736, Nicholas Hammond, eſq. gave by will in 1724 1000l. 500l. for erecting a ſchool-houſe, 500l. for endowing the ſame, for inſtructing twenty boys in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Benefactors who promote knowledge, virtue, and induſtry, Deſerve to be recorded on earth, and rewarded in Heaven.

Here was alſo, beſides the parochial church of Swaffham, and the chapel of St. Guthlac, a free chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, ſaid to be in the manor of John de Britannia, earl of Richmond, and in the pariſh of Swaffham.

This town hath been alſo noted as the birth-place of brother John de Swaffham, D. D. of Cambridge, and a Carmelite or White Friar of the monaſtery at Lynn, where he was educated. He was allowed to be a man of great learning, but employed it in a very ſtrenuous manner againſt the doctrine of Wickliff, againſt whoſe followers he wrote a book. He was made biſhop of Bangor by pope Gregory XI. and lived in 1394, in the time of Richard II. being an active man under pope Boniface IX. at the council held at Stamford againſt the diſciples of Wickliff.

Swaffham

Swaffham lies on the great road from Norwich, twenty-eight miles, to Lynn, fifteen; and is diſtant from Eaſt Dereham twelve miles, Fakenham fifteen, Downham fourteen, Brandon fourteen, Watton nine, and London ninety-two. A ſtage-coach paſſes through Swaffham from London, from Lynn, from Norwich, and from Fakenham, twice a week. The principal inn here is the Crown, where a very reſpectable lodge of the ancient fraternity of Free-Maſons is held the firſt Monday of every Month.

THE

HISTORY

OF

NORFOLK.

Hundred of GRIMSHOE,

GRIMSHOO, or Grimeshou, is bounded on the east with the hundreds of Shrophain and Wayland, and on the north with the hundred of South Greenhoe, from which it is divided by the river Wiffey; (but at Cranwich it croſſes the river, and takes in the townſhips of Colveſton and Ickburgh,) on the weſt, with the hundred of Clackcloſe, and on the South with the Little-Ouſe, which divides it from Suffolk.

It is about ſixteen miles in length from ſouth-eaſt to north-weſt, and from five to ſeven miles in breadth.

It contains the following towns, to which we add the number of votes polled by freeholders reſident in each, at the great conteſted election for members to repreſent this county in parliament, March 23, 1768, and what each town is valued to the land tax:

	W.	de G.	A.	C.	Land Tax.
Buckenham-Tofts	1	1	0	0	£.119 16 8
Colveſton -	1	1	0	0	139 16 8
Cranwich -	1	1	0	0	199 16 8
Croxton -	0	0	1	1	212 5 0
Feltwell -	25	28	5	2	1133 0 0
Hockwold with Wilton -	5	6	17	16	991 11 8
Ickburgh -	1	1	0	0	174 11 8
Lynford -	0	1	1	0	189 16 8
Methwold -	15	24	9	2	1197 0 0
Mundford -	5	5	0	0	273 13 4
Northwold -	23	25	1	1	1052 1 8
Santon -	1	1	0	0	99 16 8
Stanford -	0	0	0	0	299 13 4
Sturſton -	0	0	0	0	209 15 0
Tofts, Weſt -	0	0	0	0	319 13 0
Weeting with Broomhill	5	8	4	2	560 5 0
Total	83	102	38	24	£7172 13 0

It moſt probably derives its name from Grime, and Hoe, a hilly, champaign country. This Grime was ſome conſiderable leader, or general, probably of the Danes, in this quarter; and if he was not the præfitus comitatus, or vicecomes, that is, the ſhire-greeve, or ſheriff, he was undoubtedly the centuriæ præpoſitus, that is, the hundred-greeve, and as ſuch gave the name to it, which it retains at this day.

About the centre of this hundred, two miles eaſt of Weeting, in the road from Brandon to Norwich, is

is a very curious Daniſh incampment, in a ſemi-circular form, conſiſting of about twelve acres, on the ſide of a hill, or riſing ground, of marl, or chalk; in this ſpace are great numbers of large deep pits, joined in a regular manner, one near to another, in form of a quincunx, the largeſt ſeeming to be in the centre, where probably the general's, or commander's tent was. Theſe pits are dug ſo deep, and are ſo numerous, that they are capable not only of receiving a very great army, but alſo of covering and concealing them in ſuch a manner, that travellers paſſing by cannot diſcern them. At the eaſt end of this intrenchment (called by the neighbourhood *The Holes*) is a large tumulus, pointing towards Thetford, (about five or ſix miles diſtant) which perhaps might alſo have ſerved as a watch tower, or place of ſignal; and here the hundred court uſed to be held. This remarkable place retains alſo the name of Grime's-Graves, as well as that of The Holes, taking its name from the aforeſaid Grime, and from the iſlandick, or old Daniſh words, *groſa fodere*, to dig. That this part of the country (being open and champaign) was a great ſeat of war between the Saxons and Danes appears from the many tumuli throughout this hundred, there being ſcarce any townſhip without more or leſs of them. Theſe tumili were erected by the northern nations, for the ſepulchre of their moſt conſiderable men and leaders who fell in battle, and ſerved not only as monuments of honour to the deceaſed, but as tokens of victory and terror, and were trophies of conqueſt, to ſhew how far they had led their armies, and conquered.

In theſe have been often found the bones of men, pieces of old armour*, &c. and in Somerſetſhire, under

 one,

* Mr. Blomfield had by him the head of a Daniſh ſpear, made of

one, was found a vault arched, wherein lay a man in rich armour, with two phials of ſome kind of liquor by his head, as it were *pro viatico*.

This hundred, with that of Wayland, &c. were anciently the demeſnes of the kings of England, but king John gave them to Roger de Tony. In the 34th of Henry III. it was valued at ſix marks; and in the 52d of that king William de St. Omer held it, paying 20s per ann.

It appears by the preſentment of the jury in the 3d of Edward I. when there was an inquiſition taken, that Petronilla de Tony held it in dower, with the hundred of Wayland, &c. and William de St. Omer held it by courteſy, having married Petronilla, widow of Roger de Tony. The commiſſioners for this hundred on the king's behalf, on the oaths of twelve men for the hundred, and five men out of each town, were to enquire of all privileges that the lords of the manors held, what uſurpations were made on the king's privileges during his abſence, and the tenures of their manors.

In the 9th of the ſaid king the hundred was then held by William de St. Omer, who paid 50s. blank-farm at the caſtle of Norwich for it.

In the 3d of Edward II. Robert de Tony died ſeiſed of it, leaving it to Alice, wife of Thomas de Leybourn, his ſiſter and heir, who being afterwards married to Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, it came into that family; but in the 21ſt of the ſaid king

of braſs, which was found under one of theſe tumuli in Methwold-Field, in this hundred, entirely perfect, except a large gap on its edge.

king it was granted to John earl of Salisbury, and his heirs male, by the king.

In the 2d of Henry IV. it came into the Warwick family again, and Thomas earl of Warwick held it. In the 24th of Henry VI. Henry duke of Warwick died seised, leaving it to Ann, his daughter and heir, then but three years old, who died soon after, so that it descended to Ann, sister to Henry, wife to Richard Nevill, earl of Salisbury, who was declared earl of Warwick, and was that great earl intitled *Richard Make-King*.

In the 3d of Henry VII. we find it conveyed to that king by Ann countess of Warwick; and it remained in the crown till the 36th of Henry VIII. when that king granted it to sir Richard Southwell, of Wood-Rising, in Mitford hundred; and from the Southwells it came to the Cranes; and about 1662 was parcel of the possessions of William Crane, esq. of Wood-Rising.

It was in the hands of Mr. Wright, late of Brandon, in Suffolk, son of the Rev. Mr. Wright, vicar of Stepney.

The tenths of the towns of this hundred were 90l. 15s. 6d. q. Deductions 14l. 13s. 5d. ob. Rem. 76l. 2s. ob. q.

The whole hundred (Santon excepted) is in the deanry of Cranwich, and under the archdeacon of Norfolk.

Seats and principal Houſes in this hundred.

Buckenham,	Lord Petre.
Feltwell,	Robert Clough, eſq.
Hockwold,	Cecil Wyche, eſq.
Lynford,	James Nelthorpe, eſq.
Northwold,	Henry Partridge, eſq.
Tofts, Weſt,	George Nelſon, eſq.
Weeting,	Earl of Montrath.

Grimſhoe hundred, according to the ſignification of its name, is a hilly, champaign, open country, the land being ſandy and barren, unleſs improved by the farmer's induſtry, or by the flocks of ſheep which are kept in almoſt every town in the hundred for that purpoſe, there being no where better mutton than this barren land affords, the ſheep being not liable to the diſeaſe called the rot, as they often are in the more fertile parts of this county; the ſoil, though it is a ſand at top, not only affords excellent chalk for lime, but good earth for brick, and in ſome places blue clay, which, laid upon the land, makes an excellent manure, and produces abundance of corn. The rabbets alſo, which are on the moſt barren part, are not only the more excellent for that reaſon, but renders that, which would otherwiſe be of no uſe, to be of equal value with much better land; ſo that by this means, though the champaign, or fielding country, (as it is commonly called) may appear to the traveller to be of little value either to the owner, or occupier, it is in reality far otherwiſe, being rendered by theſe improvements as valuable as a far better ſoil.

The whole hundred pays 15l. 4s. 9d. to the general rate of the county at a ſix hundred pound levy.

BUCKENHAM-

BUCKENHAM-TOFTS, Bokenham Parva, or Little-Buckenham wrote in Doomſday-book Buckenham, is ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from the other towns of the ſame name in this county. At the ſurvey we meet with two lordſhips here, one held by Hugh de Montford, and the other by Roger, ſon of Rainard.

Hugh de Montford had what was valued at 8s. per ann. the whole was one leuca long, and half a league broad, and paid 8d. of the 20s. gelt; the ſoc was in the king, and the earl of Norfolk.

This lordſhip was held of the Mountfords ſoon after the conqueſt, by a family that aſſumed their name from the town; and William, ſon of ſir Ralph de Buckenham, had a charter for free warren here, in Ellingham, and Ilington, in the 38th of Henry III. and before this, in the 4th of king John, a fine was levied between William de Buckenham, tenant, and Petronilla de Mortimer, petent, of the advowſon of the church of Buckenham Parva, and the moiety of a mill. In the 3d of Edward I. Simon de Nevill was lord, and had the aſſize of bread and beer of his tenants, and was patron of the church; but in 1300 Hubert Hacon held it, and preſented; after this Margery, relict of Roger Coſyn, of Ellingham Magna, preſented in 1313, as lady of the manor; and in 1323 John Potys, of Wilton; but in 1337 ſir Simon de Hethierſet, knt. was lord and patron; ſoon after, in 1357, it was in the hands of Richard Gegge, of Saham-Tony, who preſented to the church in 1367; and in this family of Gegge it continued till about the reign of Edward IV. when it came to John Auſteyn, eſq. by the marriage of Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Richard Gegge, eſq. In the 2d of Edward VI. ſir John Spring died lord,

and William Spring, esq. his son and heir, had livery of it in the 1st of queen Mary; this William was afterwards a knight, and lord of Pakenham, in Suffolk; he died February 10, in the 42d of Elizabeth, seised of this manor, and those of Pakenham, &c. in Suffolk. In the reign of James I. we find it in the family of Rich; and in 1614 sir Robert Rich (afterwards earl of Warwick) presented as lord; but in the reign of Charles II. Mr. Appleton, who married the widow of sir Robert Crane, of Suffolk, bart. enjoyed it; and Robert Fairford, Isaac Preston, and Mr. Craddock, conveyed it to Mr. Vincent, who built here the hall that is now standing, and is a neat pile of brick, on the summit whereof is a lofty lanthorn, or turret; and on the top of this house he (being a very great humourist) erected a fish-pond, with a bason of lead to contain the water, and had pipes of lead which brought water by an engine from a canal in the gardens, into every room (as it is said) of the house: he also built an elegant stable, and other offices, and made a park. From this Mr. Vincent (who mortgaged it to sir Thomas Meers) it came to Robert Partridge, esq. who dying in 1710, it passed to Henry Partridge, esq. his brother; and on his death to his son, Henry, who sold it about 1736 to the honourable Philip Howard, esq. brother to the duke of Norfolk; and the right honourable Robert Edward Petre, lord Petre, of Writtle, is now the present lord.

The other lordship was held at the survey by Roger, son of Rainard, valued at 11s. and the king and the earl had the soc.

This soon after came to the earl Warren, and was held of him by the ancient family of Mortimer, of Attleburgh; in the reign of Henry III. John Langetot held half a quarter of a fee of sir Robert de

de Mortimer, he of the earl of Warren, and the earl of the king. In the 9th of Edward II. Henry de Walpole was lord. In the 20th of Edward III. ſir John de Hederſet, and Jeffrey de Hall, held it of ſir Conſtantine de Mortimer; and in the 3d of Henry IV. it was in the hands of Richard Gegge, and ſo became united to the other manor, and hath continued ſo ever ſince, and for this lordſhip there is a yearly rent paid to the lordſhip of Hillburgh at this day.

There is nothing remaining of this old village but the hall, and the miller's houſe.

The prior of Wormegay had lands here, taxed in 1428 at 6d. and the prior of Broomhill was taxed for his at the ſame time 6d.

The church has been ſo long demoliſhed, that the ſcite of it is not known; it is ſaid to have been about the upper end of the canal in the gardens, near the garden-houſe; it was dedicated to St. Andrew, and there was in it the image of our Lady, as appears from an old will, wherein a legacy was given to repair her perke*.

In the rector's anſwer to king James, in 1603, he obſerves that there were then about ten communicants here, and that they go to church and receive the ſacrament at Stanford, the church of Buckenham being long ſince utterly decayed.

This rectory is a ſinecure, valued in the king's books at 3l. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 15l. per ann. is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths; ſynodals are 20d. biſhop's procurations, 18d.

In

* A pedeſtal, and niche that ſhe ſtood in.

In 1728 Henry Partridge, esq. was patron; and in 1776 the Rev. David Jones was presented to this rectory by Thomas Newman, clerk, *p. h. v.*

COLVESTON, COLNESTON, or COULSTON, lies on the opposite shore to Cranwich, on the north side of the river Wissey, the hundred of Grimshoe crossing here that river, and taking in this town, and that of Ickburgh. In Doomsday it is wrote Covestuna, and derives its name from the Saxon word *love*, a small creak, and *tun*, or *ton*, a town, or village.

At the survey, it was the lordship of William earl Warren, but in the Confessor's time was held by a freeman of Harold's, afterwards king of England, and was valued at 8s. per ann. It was five furlongs long, and four broad, and paid 5d. ob. when the hundred paid 20s. gelt.

Soon after the conquest this village was held of the earl Warren, the capital lord, by a family that assumed their name from it, a practice frequent in that age. And Jordan de Colveston, lord, by his deed without date, (about the reign of Henry I.) gave to the monks of Castle Acre the rent of 3s. per ann. out of his mill called Wor-Milne, in this place. After this, about the reign of king John, Richard de Gelham held it of the aforesaid earl, by the service of half a knight's fee, but in the reign of Henry III. sir John de Lodne was lord, and gave by deed to the monks of Castle Acre 3s. per ann. out of his manor, instead of the 3s. given them out of the mill abovementioned.

In the 3d of Edward I. Robert de Loden, or Lodne, was lord, and had the assize of bread and beer here; and the men of this town, and Ickburgh, are said to be obliged

ol lieed to go to the leet of the hundred of Weyland, and to pay 12d there; in the 9th of Edward II. Lorice Atte-hooe was returned lady of the manor; and in the following year John earl Warren aliened, with the king's licence, this lordſhip to ſir Ralph de Cobham, and his heirs, to be held of them in capite; and in the 20th of Edward III. this Ralph lord Cobham died ſeiſed of it and John was his ſon and heir, by Mary, his wife, daughter of William lord Roos, and widow of Thomas de Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, and in the next year proved his age, and had livery.

In the 33d of Edward III. being then a knight, he ſerved that king in the wars of France, and had in his retinue ſir John de Northwold, ſir John Criſpin, John Deveniſh, John Atte-church, &c. In the 37th of the ſaid king, on the 3d of June, he granted to Edward III. and his heirs, (after his own deceaſe) this manor, with many others, in ſeveral counties, and delivered a ring of gold to the king, in name of ſeiſin, and died ſeiſed of it in the reign of Richard II.

On the death of ſir John Cobham the lordſhip came to John de Harling, of eaſt Harling, in Norfolk, to whom, and his heirs, Edward III. gave the reverſion; but in the 3d of Henry IV. Richard Holditch, eſq. was found to hold it in capite of the king, of his manor of Methwold, by knight's ſervice; and in 1592 Henry Holditch, eſq. preſented to this church. After this it came by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Henry Holditch, eſq. to ſir John Sidley, of St. Cleers, in Kent, knt. and bart. who ſold it in the year 1650 to Robert Wilſon, of Merton, in Surrey, eſq. who left it to his ſecond ſon, Edward Wilſon, eſq. who built a neat manor houſe here. From him it came to the late Robert Wilſon, eſq. of Didlington, and Henry William Wilſon, eſq. lieutenant colonel

colonel of the weſtern battalion of Norfolk militia, (1759) is the preſent proprietor.

There is nothing now remaining of this old village but the aforeſaid manor-houſe, and a farm-houſe adjoining.

The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The prior of Broomhill was taxed for his temporalities here, in 1428, 4s. 6d.

The church has been in ruins time immemorial. It ſtood a little weſt of the preſent farm-houſe, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In it there were the arms of England, the earl Warren, and the earl of Clare. John de Lodne, lord of the town in the 20th of Henry III. granted the patronage of it to the prior and convent of Lewes, in Suſſex; but it appears from the inſtitution books, that that convent did not preſent till the year 1375.

This church formerly belonged to St. Bartholomew of Ickburgh, as the mother and baptiſmal church.

In January 23, 1347, Edward III. preſented on account of the minority of the ſon and heir of ſir John de Brews, knt.

About this time (1350) the prior, &c. of Lewes, recovered the preſentation againſt ſir John de Brews.

The rector was deprived in 1553, being *a married prieſt*.

This

This is a rectory conſolidated with the vicarage of Didlington, 1616, and the real value of both being but 40l. per ann. no tenths or firſt fruits are paid. This rectory was valued at 4l. 2d. ob.

In 1748 the Rev. John Brundiſh, jun. was preſented to this united rectory by the late Robert Wilſon, eſq. of Didlington.

CRANWICH, or CRANWISE, lies eaſt of Northwold, on the ſouth ſide of the river Wiſſey, and derives its name from the Saxon word *garne*, (Angulus) a turn, nook, or corner, and *wic*, a bay, port, or landing place, or from *garne*, and the river Wiſſey, being wrote in Doomſday-book Cranewiſſe.

In the reign of Edward the Confeſſor there were two lordſhips, one was held by a free-man of Harold, (afterwards king) valued at 60s. per ann.

The other moiety, or lordſhip, was held by a free-man of St. Audrey, and was valued at 60s. per ann.

The whole contained ſeven furlongs in length, and four in breadth, and paid 9d. ob. gelt when the hundred was aſſeſſed at 20s. It belonged to the caſtle of Lewes.

On the conqueſt theſe lordſhips were given to the earl Warren by the Conqueror, and ſo being united became one manor.

In the reign of Henry I. Peter de Cranwich was lord, and held it of the earl Warren; this Peter gave to the convent of Caſtle Acre, founded by the earl Warren, part of a wood, 2s. per ann. in tithes, two ſolidates and an half of land, and a thouſand eels per

per annum. Soon after this, in the ſame reign, the Caillys, or Cayleys, were lords. In the 12th of Henry III Adam de Cayley purchaſed of William de Butery 40s. rent, iſſuing out of a mill. lands, &c. here, for ſixteen marks of ſilver; and in the 3d of Edward I. ſir Oſbert de Cayley was lord, and claimed the aſſize of bread and beer here. On the death of ſir Thomas de Cayley, about the 17th of Edward II. the lordſhip deſcended to ſir Adam, ſon of ſir Roger de Clifton, by Margaret, ſiſter and heir to ſir Thomas de Cayley. Sir John de Clifton was lord in the 50th of Edward III. and was ſummoned to parliament as a baron; he died at Rhodes, Jan. 8, 1388. From the Cliftons it went by an heireſs, Margaret, married to ſir Andrew Ogard, knt. who dying without iſſue, before her father, the lordſhip came to the Knevets, Elizabeth, ſiſter of ſir John Clifton, being married to ſir John Knevet, grandſon to ſir John Knevet, lord chancellor of England; and in the 7th of Henry VIII. ſir William Knevet, of Buckenham-caſtle, died ſeiſed of it, being held of the earl of Arundel. In the 28th of Henry VIII. ſir Edmund Knevet ſold the manor and advowſon, &c. to John Boldero, and Stephen Heyward. John Boldero, his grandſon, ſold his part, or moiety, to William Heyward, ſon of Stephen, who was lord of the whole town, and patron in 1603. In the reign of Charles I. it came again to the family of Knevet, on the marriage of Emma, daughter and heir of William Heyward, gent. with —— Knevet, eſq. of Aſhwellthorpe; and in 1665 ſir John Knevet preſented to this rectory as lord and patron. In 1720 colonel P. Knevet ſold it to Henry Partridge, eſq. of Buckenham-Houſe, whoſe ſon, Henry Partridge, eſq. is the preſent lord.

The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The

The church is dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, and is a rude old ſingle building of flint, boulder, &c. covered with tile, in length about thirty-five feet, and fifteen in breadth; to this nave is a chancel annexed, about thirty feet long, and fifteen broad, and covered with thatch. Here lie ſeveral marble graveſtones.

One is inſcribed—*To Jane, the daughter of Thomas Steward, of Barton-Mills, eſq. and the wife of William Hayward, buried November* 23, 1633.

Another,—*To William Hayward. gent. patron of this church, buried December* 10, 1630.

On a third this only legible, - - - - *Vir Pius.* - - - in memory (as it is ſaid) of Mr. Doughty, rector.

At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a narrow but lofty round tower, of flint, &c. embattled and coped with free-ſtone, wherein hangs one bell. This tower is of great and venerable antiquity, built in the reign of the Daniſh kings, and probably by Harold king of England, of whom a free-man held a moiety of this town in the time of the Confeſſor.

In this church were formerly the arms of Cliſton, painted in glaſs.

In 1603 there were ſixty-five communicants, and William Hayward, of Bury, was patron.

In 1768 the Rev. William Green was preſented to this rectory by Henry Partridge, eſq. of Northwold.

This

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 8l. 9s. 7d. and being in clear value but 40l. per annum, is discharged of tenths and first fruits.

This town gives name to the deanry of Cranwich, which takes in all the churches within the hundreds of Grimshoe and South Greenhoe, except Santon, which is in the deanry of Thetford. In ancient days each deanry had its peculiar dean, of which it may not be improper to make a few remarks in this place.

Rural deans are very ancient, and no precise time has been determined when the office first began; it is probable it was in the Saxon time, and a learned author has observed * that these deans in the church answered the place of the *tienherod* of the hundred, the head of the ten friborgs, or tithingman, and that in imitation of this secular method the spiritual governors, the bishops, divided each diocese into deanries, or tithings, each of which had in its district ten parishes, or churches, and over every such district they appointed a dean, who should in spiritual matters, as the *tienherod* in civil, reconcile differences, receive complaints, and enquire into grievances, &c. The first mention of them is in the year 877; and in one of the laws of Edward the Confessor it was provided, that of the 8l. penalty for breach of the king's peace the king should have 100s. the earl 50s. and the bishop's dean, in whose deanry it was, the other 10s. which, according to the opinion of sir Henry Spelman, &c. is meant of the rural deans. If these deans were over such a number of churches in a city, they were called *Decani Urbani*; if in the country, *Decani Rurales*; and as

* Kennet's Paroch. Antiq. p. 633.

as hundreds and tithings kept their name, when they have no longer borne a ſtrict relation to the number of villages, or people, ſo likewiſe the rural deans continued when they loſt their firſt alluſion to ten pariſhes, or churches, and the diſtrict of them was enlarged at the pleaſure of the biſhop; though ſome deanries do ſtill retain the primitive allotment of ten churches, eſpecially in Wales, where the moſt ancient uſages continue.

Theſe rural deans had their capitula, or chapters, made up of the inſtituted clergy, or their curates, as proxies for them, and the dean was preſident, or *prolocutor*; theſe were held at firſt every three weeks, afterwards once a month, but their principal chapters were aſſembled once a quarter; all rectors, and vicars, or their *capellans*, were bound to attend thoſe chapters, and to bring information of all irregularities committed in their reſpective pariſhes. The place of holding theſe chapters was at firſt in any church within the deanry, where the miniſter of the place was to entertain the dean, and his immediate officers; but in a council at London, held by biſhop Stratford in 1342, it was ordained, that ſuch chapters ſhould not be held in any obſcure village where it was difficult to get proviſion, but in the larger and more eminent pariſhes, where the company could be beſt accommodated, and all the officials, and ſervants of the dean, were to have their charges defrayed by their maſter, without burden to the clergy.

In theſe chapters the dean publiſhed the decrees of provincial and eſpiſcopal ſynods, all eccleſiaſtical laws and canons, and enforced the execution of them; they had alſo the probate of wills, &c. the cognizance of all matrimonial cauſes, matters of divorce, and incontinency: thus we find that when Henry II. was

at York, a burgeſs of Scarborough complained to him of a rural dean that had taken from him 12d. and enjoined his wife pennance as an adultreſs, without proof, contrary to the king's law; they had alſo a great ſhare in the trials for the right of advowſon, and their more eſpecial duty was to inſpect, and cenſure the manners of the clergy, and to pronounce ſentence of excommunication; they were alſo commiſſioned to receive the taxes of the clergy, ſubſidies, firſt fruits, tenths, &c. and the general taxation of benefices in England, called *The Norwich taxation*, (made by Walter Suffeld, biſhop of Norwich, the pope's deputy,) was taken in every deanry by the rural deans, and two or three rectors, or vicars, members of the chapter of that deanry. That theſe branches of their office and juriſdiction were of conſiderable profit muſt be granted, elſe we ſhall be at a loſs to account for the exchanges that we frequently meet with between rectors, and dignitaries of the church, and theſe rural deans.

At the beginning they are ſaid to be elected by the clergy of their own diſtrict, and when confirmed by the biſhop, were not to be ejected without the joint conſent of their own preſbyters; and in later times, they were temporary, and removed, as Dr. Kennet aſſerts, by the biſhop's ſole power; but it is plain from the inſtitutions of the deans of Cranwich, that they were collated by the biſhop, and that it was no temporary office, or *durante epiſcopi bene placito*, they being ſtiled *decani perpetui*, and alſo from their ſolemn reſignations and exchanges of this office, for other preferments in the church.

Each rural dean had his ſeal belonging to his office, and we are told that the ſeal of the dean of Burchelter, in Oxfordſhire, was an oblong oval (as moſt

moſt religious ſeals were); the impreſs, a pelican ſtanding on a pedeſtal, wounding her breaſt with her bill, and feeding her young with her own blood, and Mr. Blomfield had by him the probate of a will of Thomas Weſthowe, of Beughton, near Downham, in Norfolk, dated Dec. 16, 1413, proved by Hugh Birdham, dean of Fincham, to which is affixed an oblong ſeal of red wax; the impreſs, a bird, probably a finch, on a tree, and a ſtar in chief, and this legend, *Sigillum decanatus de Fyncham*, expreſſing both his own and his deanry's name in that device.

The rural deans were plain, honeſt men, not much ſkilled in the ſubtilties of the civil or canon law, but were not the leſs capable of their office and juriſdiction, as depending on known cuſtoms, and the rules of equity, but by degrees, when the method of eccleſiaſtical juſtice was turned into *arts* and *myſteries*, then began the canoniſts to pretend themſelves the only fit miniſters in all courts of Chriſtianity, and inſinuated themſelves into the favour and counſels of the biſhops, and ſo obtained the new titles of archdeacons, officials, and chancellors, and then eaſily run down theſe deans. Thus by the art and intereſt of the canoniſts, &c. the juriſdiction of this office declined ſo much, that little but the name and ſhadow of it was in being even in the age before the reformation. It has been wiſhed, that our reformers would have reſtored this good and uſeful office to all its ancient rights, and laudable practices, and thoſe great perſons who were commiſſioned to revive the eccleſiaſtical laws of this realm agreed in their good opinion of it, preſcribed a proper method, but it fell for want of confirmation by the legiſlative power, yet though it was not formally ratified, all thoſe parts of it have no leſs the force of a law, (viz. all ſuch eccleſiaſtical canons, conſtitutions, &c.) as are

not repugnant to the laws, ſtatutes, &c. of the realm, of which inoffenſive nature was this juriſdiction of rural deans. And in a provincial ſynod, held at London, April 3, 1571, it was ordained, that the archdeacon, when he had finiſhed his viſitation, ſhould ſignify to the biſhop what clergymen he found in every deanry ſo well endowed with learning and judgment as to be worthy to inſtruct the people in ſermons, and to rule and preſide over others; out of theſe the biſhop may chooſe ſuch as he will have to be rural deans. The little remains of this dignity and juriſdiction depend now on the cuſtoms of places, and the pleaſure of dioceſans; in ſome parts of this kingdom the rural deans have nothing left, but the burden of entertaining the rectors and vicars of the deanry at a ſolemn feaſt.

In 1315, October 27, Mr. Ralph de Belegrave was collated to this deanry by the biſhop, with all its rights and privileges.

On the collation of the dean, Jan. 10, 1498, this injunction is entered:—*Et epiſcopus virtute obedientiæ, firmiter injunxit omnibus et ſingulis abbatibus, prior, rector, vicar, curatis, &c. tam clericis quam laicis per dict. decanat. quod Hen. Goldwello Decano perpetuo eorum, obediant pariter et intendant in omnibus licitis, canonicisque mandatis. Lib. inſtit. Norw.*

The deanry of Cranwich, or Kernewiz, contained forty-ſeven pariſhes, and was taxed at 30s.—*Doomſday-book.*

CROXTON. This village ſtands at the ſouth-eaſt corner of the hundred. In the time of the Conqueror, when Doomſday-book was made, it was called Crokeſtuna, was then in the king's hands, and

and kept for him by William de Noiers. Stigand archbiſhop of Canterbury was lord in Edward the Confeſſor's time, when it was valued at 10l. per ann. At the ſurvey at 40s. but paid 100s. The whole was one leuca and an half in length, and one in breadth, and paid 20d. towards the 20s. gelt of the hundred.

Soon after this the Conqueror gave the town to William the great earl Warren, his ſon-in-law, who, at the conqueſt, had the greateſt part of the hundred given him.

SIBTON MANOR, part of this town, was held under the ſaid earl, by Thomas, and Simon Sorel; which Thomas, about the reign of Henry III. gave lands here to the abbey of Sibeton, in Suffolk, and from hence this manor took its name.

Beſides the family of Sorel, ſeveral other perſons gave lands here to the aforeſaid abbey; inſomuch that the temporalities of that religious houſe, in this town, were taxed in 1428 at 10l. 4s. 6d. per ann. and were afterwards (at the duke's requeſt) aſſigned to the monks of Thetford, and at the diſſolution of abbeys were given by Henry VIII. to the duke, and in the ninth year of James I. the bailiff of Thomas earl of Arundel and Surrey accounted thus for the profits of this manor. Rent of aſſize, and free tenants, 16d. of cuſtomary tenants 3l. 7d. ob. and for lands in the vicar's tenure 16d. This manor is now held by the duke of Norfolk, and there was a few years paſt a park well ſtocked with deer. The houſe, which ſtands in it, was formerly known by the name of North-Wick, becauſe it ſtands on the north winding of the river, in reſpect to Thetford, and is now called Croxton-park.

Broomhill Manor. Another part of this town was held of the aforesaid earl Warren, by the ancient family of De Plaiz, and was given by sir Hugh de Plaiz, about the beginning of the reign of Henry III. to the priory of Broomhill, in this hundred, on his founding that religious house. In the third of Henry IV. the prior held it of sir John Howard, (the heiress of the De Plaiz's being married into that family) and he of the duchy of Lancaster, then in the king's hands.

In 1428 the priory was taxed at 7l. 5s. 11d. for its temporalities in this town, and at 22 marks for its spiritualities, the rectory being appropriated to it.

This priory being suppressed before the general dissolution, by a bull of pope Clement VII. in the 20th of Henry VIII. the manor was granted to cardinal Wolsey; and on the cardinal's fall, the king, by exchange, gave it to Christ's college, in Cambridge, June 2, 1532, in which college it still remains.

Besides these manors, Walter Clere, and Bertram Crioll, held lands here before the reign of Henry III. as did several other persons about this time. On July 3, 1412, licence was granted to Roger Stopsley, to convey to the prior and monks of Thetford 53 acres of land, with the appurtenances, in Croxton and Thetford; and also to Edmund Blankpayn, to convey 30 acres of land lying in a field called Fauconfield, with the appurtenances in this village; and in 1428 these religious were taxed for their temporalities in this town at 2l. 1s. 8d.

The hospital also of St Mary Magdalen, in Thetford, had an interest in this town, in the 35th of Henry III. and there was a chapel, or religious house, said

faid to belong to them, called *domus Dei*, near the church of Croxton, but we rather think it belonged to *domus Dei* at Thetford, and after to the canons.

On the diſſolution of theſe houſes the lands aforementioned came to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and were ſettled by him on feoffees, for charitable uſes; viz. the founding and endowing a ſchool, and hoſpital, at Thetford, and are accordingly applied at this day.

Croxton ſtands on the ſide of a hill, and there are ſome trees growing on its ſummit, which are ſeen many miles in this open country, and are, by way of diſtinction, called Croxton High-Trees. In the fields of this town is a large mere, called Foul-mere, conſiſting of many acres of water.

The church is dedicated to All Saints; it is built of flint-ſtone, and boulder, and conſiſts of a nave, or body, to which is annexed a ſouth aile, with good roofs of oak, covered with lead, and is in length about 58 feet, and in breadth, including the ſaid aile, about 28 feet. At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a very large font, with a capacious baſon, ſupported by five pilaſters of ſtone. The larger our fonts are, the greater is their antiquity, being made thus on account of immerſion, which was in practice in the Saxon times, as is plain from the hiſtory of Etheldred II. ſon to king Edgar, who in his holy tincture (like Conſtantine Copronimus) defiled the font with natural excrements, and made Dunſtan, the canonized ſaint, and then archbiſhop of Canterbury, to exclaim, or ſwear, *per Deum et matrem ejus ignavus homo erit.* William Wyrceſter, in his *Metra de Regibus Anglia*, has the following diſtich on this ſubject:

" *Sacra ſtatim natus Etheldredus violavit,*
Nam baptizatus, baptiſterium violavit."

At this very day the fonts in country churches are generally capacious enough to admit of immerſion, if requeſted by the parent of the child.

A very worthy author*, treating on private baptiſm, obſerves, " that water once bleſſed in ſo ſacred a purpoſe, ſhould neither be put to common uſe, or thrown away irreverently into the kennel, or ſink; and we wonder our church (as the ſaid author proceeds) has made no proviſion how the water uſed in the font at church ſhould be diſpoſed of. In the Greek church, particular care is taken that it never is thrown into the ſtreet, like common water, but poured into a hollow place under the altar, called in Greek *Thalaſſidion*, or *Choneion*, where it is ſoaked into the earth, or finds a paſſage." The ſaid reverend author, upon enquiry, will find that the fonts in moſt, if not in all our country churches, have an hole and ſtopple at the bottom, as the holy water-pots alſo anciently had, which lets the water out into a pipe, or channel, reaching from the mouth of the hole to the ground, where a cavity is made on purpoſe to receive it, that it may ſoak into the earth, as is above obſerved in the Greek *Choneion*, ſo that the practice of the ancients is a plain and a juſt example for us to imitate.

At the eaſt end of the ſouth aile is an aſcent, where, in the time of popery, there was an altar, as in moſt churches of that age.

At

* Wheatly *on the common prayer*, p. 383.

At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a tower of flint, &c. the lower part of it is round, and a Daniſh work, the upper part is now octangular, and has a cap, or cover of wood. In this tower hang three bells; one of them is dedicated to Thomas Becket, archbiſhop of Canterbury.

This chancel is in length about 24 feet, in breadth about 15, and is covered with thatch. There is an aſcent of two ſteps to the communion table, where, on the pavement, lie three marble grave-ſtones, one in memory of Elizabeth Snelling, wife of George Snelling, of Lee, in Kent, eſq. and mother of Mary Snelling, who married William Smith, of Croxton, gent. She died September 26, 1678, aged 72.

Againſt the north wall is a compartment of marble and ſtone, ornamented with a cherub, gilt, and foliages; and on the ſummit a ſhield, Fletcher impaling Wood, inſcribed—*To Thomas Fletcher, eſq. one of the readers of Lincoln's Inn, who married Frances, the eldeſt daughter of Robert Wood, eſq. late of Tharſton, and had iſſue by her nine ſons, and ſeven daughters. He died February* 4, 1656. *The ſaid Frances Fletcher died May* 10, 1684.

In the eaſt window is the ſhield of the earl Warren.

In 1401 this rectory was appropriated to the priory of Broomhill, being the gift of ſir Richard de Plaiz, and a vicarage endowed, and taxed at ſeven marks, which was preſented to by the priory.

The laſt vicar preſented by the prior died in 1536, when it was given to Chriſt college, Cambridge.

Before

Before the appropriation the rector had a house, and 50 acres of land, though now there is only half an acre of glebe, where the vicarage-house once stood.

The vicarage is valued at 6l. 13s. 4d. Tenths 13s. 4d. and is discharged of both, being in clear value but 23l. per ann. and in 1603 had 70 communicants.

Sir John Saunders Seabright, bart. of Beachwood in Hertfordshire, lieutenant general of his majesty's forces, colonel of the royal Irish regiment of foot, and member of parliament for the city of Bath, has the chief property in this town.

Croxton is distant from Thetford about three miles, on the post-road to Watton.

In 1775 the Rev. Edmund Trant was presented to this vicarage by the master and fellows of Christ's college, Cambridge.

FELTWELL. This town lies north of Hockwold and Wilton, and was given by Ethelwald bishop of Winchester, in the reign of king Edgar, to the monastery of Ely. In Doomsday-book it is wrote Fatwella, and Feltuuella, and may derive its name from *feat* and *wella*, that is, a pure water, or spring; or rather from the Saxon word *fleot*, which signifies an estuary, canal, or bay, all which agree well with the scite of this village, on the side of those great waters which came up to it before the draining of the fens.

In the time of Leofwine, fifth abbot of Ely, when the tenures and services of several townships belonging to that monastery were fixed, this was obliged to furnish the abbey with provisions for two weeks in every year.

year. The abbot had 45 foemen, who, as often as he commanded, were obliged to plow his land, to weed, cut, and bind his corn, and carry it to the barn, and bring provifions to the monaftery; and as often as the abbot wanted horfes*, to fend them to him, and whenever they forfeited, the abbot had the forfeitures; but on the conqueft earl Warren encroached on many of thefe privileges, and deprived the monaftery of a confiderable part of the town.

What the church of Ely held at the general furvey was faid to be one league and an half in length, and one in breadth, and was valued at 12l. per ann.

Bishop of Ely's Manor. This part was held by all the fucceeding abbots, till the reign of Henry I. at which time the monaftery of Ely being turned into a bifhop's fee, this manor, with many others, was vefted in the bifhop; and acordingly in the 35th of Henry III. the bifhop of Ely had a charter for free-warren in all his lands here, and held the manor of the king in capite.

In 1277, in the 6th of Edward I. the bifhop had a gallows, pillory, view of frankpledge, conufance of bufhels, &c. and liberty to hold all pleas which the fheriff might, with writ or without. The demefnes are thus diftinguifhed. In Southfield 40 acres and an half; in Portgatefield 121 acres; in Eaftfield 140 acres; in Mikleberedfield 217 acres; in Loverkehilfield 173 acres and an half; the whole being to be plowed with three plows; to every plow there was three

* Feltwell is only twelve miles in a direct line to Ely, but by any horfe, or carriage-road, muft be as many more, even at this day; we therefore wonder at this obligation of fupplying the abbot of Ely with horfes and corn at fo early a period.

three ſtone horſes, and two oxen; and two horſes to harrow the land. In Hickgate, &c. 60 acres of mowing meadows; in the ſeveral paſtures in Hickgate 40 acres, capable of mowing; in Frithelmes 30 acres. Item, there belongs to the ſame manor a certain common paſture, which begins at Lingberrywong, and ſo on by Ellengate, to the bounds between Feltwell and Methwold, in length one league and more, and in breadth a good furlong, where the villages of Methwold, Wilton, and Hockwold, have a right to common, and the other lords of this town, as the biſhop and the lords of this town have a right to common in the common paſtures of Methwold, Hockwold, and Wilton, horn, underhorn; but no one ought, or can dig, cut heath, &c. but the biſhop and his tenants only. There was a marſh called Southfen, common to all the lords, &c. in the town of Feltwell, for feeding, digging, &c. but the towns of Wilton and Hockwold could only inter-common within certain bounds, horn, and underhorn*. There was alſo another marſh belonging to this manor, called Northfen, in which the whole town might feed, dig, &c. but the town of Methwold could only feed, unleſs between Sleveſholm and Toteſholm, though the jurors ſay, "that the bailiffs of John earl Warren, and the counteſs his mother, hindered them from digging between Redlake and Wyſſenhoe for ſeven years laſt paſt." The free fiſhery of the biſhop, called Baldbeck, is bounded, which was then held for 40s. per ann. at the lord's will; as was the fiſhery of Brunſlode, which was then held at 8l. per ann. alſo that of Feltwell-fen farmed at 22l. per ann. There was alſo a water-mill belonging to this lordſhip, called Brigg-Mill, which the whole village farmed at 32s. per ann. and a wind-mill. The ſtock was 20 cows and a free bull, 60 hogs

* That is, with the kinds of horned beaſts only, whether they were young, and ſo without, or under horn, or old and ſo horned.

60 hogs and a free boar, 1000 ſheep beſides thoſe of the cuſtomary tenants, &c. which ought to be in the lord's fold; and the biſhop had all waifs found on his fee, or in the highways within the town. Humphry, ſon of Walter, and his parceners, held 360 acres free; the reſt of the freeholders, and copyholders, &c. with their rents, ſervices, &c. are particularly ſpecified. The tenants paid tallage, childwite, and a fine on the marriage of their ſons and daughters, and could not ſell an horſe-foal, or an ox of their own breed without the lord's licence, and the lord had the beſt beaſt for an heriot; and if there was no beaſt, then 32d. was paid in lieu of it, and the heir paid relief. The quit-rents were 23s 5d. per ann. 46 hens, and 9 capons, 210 eggs, and the whole ſum of the days works 4348, by the ſmall hundred, and every man's day's work, out of harveſt, is valued at an half-penny, and in harveſt at a penny.

In the 34th of Henry VI. this manor was valued at 36l. 3s. 3d. per ann. but in the reign of Philip and Mary the yearly revenue was but 29l. 10s. 9d. ob. Thus it continued in the ſee of Ely, till by an act of parliament, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, it was ſettled by way of exchange on the crown, and was held by leaſe at the yearly rent of 30l. 1s. till the 7th of James I. who on the 29th of November in the ſaid year granted to Robert Wace, eſq. this manor with the appurtenances, and all perquiſites of court thereunto belonging, ſince which time it has paſſed through ſeveral hands, and was poſſeſſed by Charles Wren, ſon of Matthew biſhop of Ely, whoſe daughter and heireſs brought it to —— Munſon, eſq. and it is now owned by Robert Clough, eſq. ſenior, of Feltwell, who has the leet of half the town, as belonging formerly to this manor, when in the hands of the biſhops of Ely.

The

The left of the other part of the town belongs to the hundred.

South-Hall Manor. At the general ſurvey we find that the earl Warren had a manor in this town, which Alveva, a Saxon lady, held in the Confeſſor's time, of St. Adeldred's monaſtery of Ely. It was valued at 90s. per ann. and there was a church belonging to it, which Godric claimed as belonging to the fee of Ralph.

The Cokefields were very early enfeoffed in this lordſhip by the earl Warren; for in the 5th of king John the biſhop of Ely, and Adam de Cokefield, owed to that king two palfreys, to have a market here, on ſuch a day in the week, which ſhould not be to the prejudice of the neighbouring markets; this was held in the reign of Henry III. by Laurence de Hamelden, of the family of the Cokefields. In the 15th of Edward I. Robert de Cokefield claimed to hold a market here, once a week, on Monday, and a fair yearly on the vigil, the day of, and the day after the feaſt of St. Nicholas. This Robert died in the 25th of Edward I. ſeiſed of this manor, without iſſue, and Joan, his ſiſter, was his heir. This Joan was probably the wife of William de Bello-Campo, or Beauchamp, who in the 7th of Edward II. gave half a mark for licence to agree with William de Wengrave for the manors of Feltwell, with Moulton, and Waldingfield, in Suffolk, all held by Robert de Cokefield, and accordingly in the ſame year a fine was levied of this manor, and they were all ſettled on William de Beauchamp.

In the 25th of Edward III. this manor was held by ſir William Beauchamp, of the caſtle of Acre, by one knight's fee. After this we find it in the hands of Elizabeth

Elizabeth Lutterell, who had a grant of free-warren here, and in Moulton, &c. about the 47th of Edward III. This Elizabeth was the relict of sir Andrew Lutterell, and daughter of Hugh Courtney, earl of Devonshire, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Humphry de Bohun, earl of Hereford; she purchased this manor of sir John de Chevereston. After this it came into the family of the Woodhouses, and was in that family in the 6th year of queen Elizabeth., and continued so till about the year 1730, when it was sold to Mr. Brewster, of Brandon, in Suffolk.

Dunton's Manor. Out of that part of the town which the earl Warren held, besides the manor of South-hall, several other little lordships had their rise, amongst these was the lordship of Dunton, so called from a family of that name. Hugh Dunton purchased lands here of John Godging, in the 52d of Henry III. and in the 11th of Edward I. other lands of Hugh Clive, of Methwold.

In the 18th of Edward III. sir William de Doniton was lord. After this it came to the Mundefords, and about the 20th of queen Elizabeth Francis Mundeford had livery of this manor, and those of Wendling-Abbots, and Spinvilles, in this town.

On the death of sir Edmund Mundeford, son of the aforesaid Edmund, in 1643, this, and the aforesaid manors of Wendling-Abbots, and Spinvilles, came to Simon Smith, of Winston, in Norfolk, gent. who married Elizabeth, sister by the whole blood to the said sir Edmund, who died without issue. From Smith it came to the Fleetwoods, and was possessed by Smith Fleetwood, esq. son of Charles Fleetwood, esq. and Frances his wife, probably the daughter of Simon Smith, which Smith Fleetwood was baptised at Feltwell

well on the 29th of July, 1647. and by Mary, daughter of fir John Hartop, bart. had Smith Fleetwood, efq. his eldeft fon, and Charles Fleetwood; by one of them it was fold to Robert Jacomb, efq.

Spinville's Manor, fo called from a family of that name, was part of the earl Warren's fee. William de Spinville held half a fee of that earl when an aid was granted to Henry III. on the marriage of his fifter to the emperor. Afterwards it came to the Mundefords about the end of Edward III. and paffed, as has been obferved, in the manor of Dunton.

Wendling-Abbot's Manor was alfo part of the earl Warren's fee, and held by Baldwin de Manners in the reign of Henry III. After this it came to the abbey of Wendling, in Norfolk, and by the inquifitions made in the 20th of Edward III. it appears that the abbot of Wendling, the lord William de la Zouch, and John de Tydd, held half a fee here of the earl Warren, late Baldwin de Manners. In this abbey it continued till the diffolution, when it came to the Mundefords, and has paffed, as has been obferved, in the manor of Dunton.

In 1428 the temporalities of the abbey in this town were valued at 5l. 13s. 7d. ob. *p. a.*

East-Hall, alias Broomhill Manor, was alfo a little lordfhip belonging to the earl Warren's fee, and held of that earl. foon after the conqueft, by the ancient family of De Plays, of Weeting, by the fervice of half a knight's fee, with a fishery in Feltwell water, held of the caftle of Acre. In the 6th of Richard II. fir John Plays made feveral deeds of feoffment of this manor to William Beauchamp, &c. in order to fettle it on the priory of Broomhill; and in the 25th of that king

King there was licence of mortmain granted. In that houſe it remained till the diſſolution, and was then given by Henry VIII. to cardinal Woolſey, and on his attainder, reverting to the crown, it was granted to Chriſt's college, in Cambridge, by way of exchange, and in that college it ſtill continues, being leaſed out by the ſociety.

Stigand archbiſhop of Canterbury, who was lord of Methwold, at the conqueſt had ſixty acres of land belonging to that manor, which extended into this town; this after the conqueſt was ſeized by the king, and at the ſurvey was kept for him by William de Noiers, but ſoon after the Conqueror gave it to the earl Warren, and ſo it became part of his fee.

Tydd's Manor, ſo called from a family of that name, was alſo a part of the earl Warren's fee, being held in the 20th of Edward III. by John de Tydd, and ſoon after it came to the Mundefords, and paſſed in the manor of Dunton.

The Mundefords of Feltwell, were a younger branch of the family of Hockwold.

Beſides the manors above-mentioned, Fotheringhay college, in Northamptonſhire, had conſiderable lands here, part of which Edward VI. by letters patent, dated June 8, in his ſeventh year, granted licence to ſir Richard Lee, to alienate a moiety of Redmore, being a moiety of 164 acres, lying in Feltwell, Hilgay, and Southrey, in Norfolk, and Lakenheath, in Suffolk, with the rights of fiſhery in thoſe towns, and the moiety of all that lode, called Barlode, and the moiety of twenty-five acres of marſh, called Norlands, to Nicholas Bacon, eſq. and in the 38th of

queen Elizabeth ſir Robert Wingfield died ſeiſed of this moiety.

The other part was held by ſir Richard Lee, and conveyed by him in the 1ſt of queen Mary to ſir Ambroſe Jermyn, of Ruſhbrook, in Suffolk; and on December 1, in the 25th of Elizabeth, ſir Robert Jermyn had licence to alienate it to Henry Warner, eſq. October 16, in the 21ſt of Charles I. Henry Warner, eſq. died poſſeſſed, as it is ſaid, of the manor of Redmore, the whole town being then in him.

The monks of Caſtle Acre alſo had lands in this village of the gift of Adam de Cokefield, about the reign of Henry III. and this priory was taxed in 1428 for their temporalities here at 29s. 8d.

Here is a fair kept on the 20th of November.

St. Nicholas's church ſtands at the weſt end of the town, and is a ſmall pile of flint and pebbles, in length about thirty-ſix feet, and in breadth, together with the north and ſouth ailes, about forty-eight, and covered with lead.

On the ſouth wall of the nave are letters wrought in ſtone, in memory of *John Do*, and *Thomas Do*, benefactors to that work.

The chancel is in length about twenty ſeven feet, and ſeventeen in breadth, and is covered with thatch. Againſt the end of the nave is a little tower, round at bottom, and octangular at top, in which hang five ſmall bells; this church was repaired, and in a good meaſure re-edified in 1494. On May 6, in that year, an indulgence was granted for that purpoſe, which, with

with the bells in the tower, was lately deſtroyed by a ſudden fire.

We learn from the Norwich Doomſday-book, that the rector then had a houſe and forty acres of land, and that the patronage of the church was in the ſee of Ely. Here is a houſe and twelve acres of glebe.

The rector in his anſwer to king James's queries obſerves, that there were in 1603 one hundred and fourteen communicants in this pariſh.

Richard Davenport, rector, was ejected before 1650 by the long parliament, but lived to be reſtored.

In 1732 the Rev. Mr. James Virtue was preſented by the biſhop of Ely: his grandſon had bequeathed to him by the late Dr. Thurſton, M. D. fellow of Gonville and Caius college, legacies, it is ſaid, to the amount of 50,000l.

This rectory is valued at 19l. in the king's books. In 1774 the Rev. Rayner Bellman was preſented to this rectory by the biſhop of Ely.

St. Mary's church is a regular pile of flint, boulder, &c. conſiſting of a nave, a north and ſouth aile, with a chancel covered with lead; the roof of the nave is of oak, and on the principals of it are the effigies of ſeveral religious; the roof is ſupported by pillars formed of four pilaſters of ſtone joined together, making ten handſome arches, five on each ſide, with as many windows over them. At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a large and lofty ſquare tower of free-ſtone, embattled with four pinnacles; under the

battlements are the arms of Mundeford, and Fincham, founders of that building.

On the pavement, as you aſcend the nave, lies a marble grave-ſtone, and on it a braſs plate, thus inſcribed,—*Orate pro animabus Oſberti Mundeford, filii Ade Mundeford, et Elizabeth conjugis ſui, qui quidem Oſbertus obijt primo die menſis Januarij, anno Dni.* MCCCCLXXIX.—And on a ſhield of braſs the arms of Mundeford.

On another.—*Orate pro animabus Ade Mundeford, armigeri, et Iſſeline uxoris ejus, qui quidem Adam obijt ſexto die menſis Martij, anno Dni.* MCCCCLXIII. *Quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen.*

On a third,—*Orate pro animabus Franciſci Hethe de Mildenhale, armigeri, et Gracie uxoris, qui quidem Franciſcus obijt* IV *die Janu. anno Dni.* MCCCCLXX.—And on a ſhield, Hethe, impaling Teye.

At the end of this aile, on the right hand, againſt the chancel wall, is a little marble compartment, with the effigies of a man in armour, and this epitaph.—*Hic jacet Franciſcus Mundeford, armiger, filius primogenitus Oſberti Mundeford, armig. ex Brigetta uxore ſua, qui Franciſcus obiit fine exitu* 1° *Januarij, anno Dni.* MDXC.

Near the ſtone ſtair-caſe that leads to the old rood-loft, and on the croſs pavement, lies an old grey marble ſtone, with the portraiture of a woman in braſs, counting her beads, and on a plate this,—*Orate pro anima Margarete Mundeford, quondam conjortis Franciſci Mundeford, armig. que obijt* XXVI°. *die menſis Maij, anno Dni.* MCCCCCXX. *Cujus anime propitietur Deus, Amen.*

At

At the end of the ſaid nave, on the left hand, againſt the chancel wall, is a neat marble compartment, ornamented with three ſmall arches, and in them the effigies of Gilbert Mundeford, eſq. in armour, his helmet before him, and his two wives, all on their knees. Motto, *SOYES, LOYAL ET LOYAL.* Over the effigies of his firſt wife is the aforeſaid quartered ſhield, impaling quarterly, 1. Townſhend, 2. Haywell, 3. Brewſe, and 4. Ufford. Over the effigies of his ſecond wife, Mundeford, impaling quarterly, 1. Spelman, 2. Narburgh, 3. Froyk, and 4. Sturgeon. On the body of the monument,—*Hic jacet Oſbertus Mundeford, armiger, qui primo duxit Margaretam, filiam Johannis, filij et hæredis Domini Rogeri Townſende militis, poſtea Brigettam unam filiarum Domini Johan. Spilman, de Narburgh, militis, et ex prima uxore exitum habuit unicam filiam, ex ſecunda, filios Novem. et filias quinque, qui Oſbertus obijt* 28° *die menſis Julij, anno Dni.* 1580, *ætat. ſuæ* 73.

In the windows of the nave on the north ſide are the ſhields quarterly of Southwell, &c. On the ſouth ſide de Grey, of Merton, Manning quarterly, and Tey.

On the pavement of the chancel lies a black marble ſtone,—*In Memory of John Wace, gent. who died Feb.* 3, 1672,—with his ſhield.

Near this lies another,—*In memory of Catherine Wace, who died April* 17, 1679.

Againſt the ſouth wall of the altar are three curious ſtone arches and ſeats for the biſhop, prieſt, and deacon, and at the head of them an arch for the holy water; in the north wall is a cupboard, once a repoſitory for relicks.

When the earl Warren at the conqueſt took poſſeſſion of that lordſhip which Alveva held, the patronage of this church, which Godric laid claim to, came to him, and was given by him, or one of his deſcendants, to the abbey of Lewes, in Suſſex, and we find from Norwich Doomſday-book, that in the reign of Edward I. it was in the patronage of that abbey, and the rector had a houſe and forty acres of land.

In 1303, Nov. 21, the rector was preſented by the biſhop of Norwich, the prior of Lewes being then excommunicated; and John earl Warren had the patronage of all the benefices belonging to the abbey of Lewes granted him by the king, who on account of his wars with France ſeized the priory aliens (of which this was one) into his own hands.

The feaſt of the dedication of this church, which was uſed to be kept annually on April 14, was enjoined by the biſhop of Norwich, in 1433, to be kept for the future annually on September 24.

This advowſon was granted to Thomas duke of Norfolk on December 22, in the 29th of Henry VIII. Robert prior of Lewes ſurrendered it to the king in the ſaid year. The rector, John Holland, made a very remarkable leaſe of this rectory, which was confirmed by the duke, the biſhop, and dean and chapter of Norwich, under their hands and ſeals, October 10, in the 37th of Henry VIII. dated September 26, in the 37th of the ſaid king, to George Holland, for life to the ſaid duke, for ninety-nine years, from St. Michael next enſuing, the ſaid rector reſerving only 12l. per ann. rent, the dwelling in a chamber, firing, and waſhing of his linen, which leaſe took accordingly effect, bound his ſucceſſors, and did not expire till the year 1646. The plea in the preamble is, in conſideration

conſideration of George Holland's great coſt, charges, and expences, which he had been at in the parſonage, and alſo hereafter intended to be at, about the edifying, building, and repairing of the dwelling and manſion-houſe of the ſaid rectory; and the aforeſaid rector was obliged to ſerve the cure, or cauſe it to be ſerved, the aforeſaid George paying the penſion of 5l. 10s. to the duke of Norfolk, due formerly to the priories of Lewes and Caſtle Acre, and 4d. per ann. rent of aſſize to Chriſt's College, in Cambridge, alſo the tenths, ſynodals, procurations, and repairing, &c. all the edifices.

In 1603 it was certified to the king, on his queries, that this church was ſerved by a curate, the benefice heretofore preſentive was long ſince leaſed by the incumbent, lord biſhop and patron, and is ſo holden and ſerved by the ſaid curate, and that there were 120 communicants in this pariſh.

In 1609, November 25, the king was in poſſeſſion of it, being forfeited on the attainder of the duke of Norfolk, in queen Elizabeth's reign, and has ever ſince remained in the crown.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 14l. 17s. 3d. ob. tenths 1l. 9s. 8d. 3q. There is a penſion paid yearly by the rector of 5l. 10s to the duke of Norfolk, of which 5l per ann. was paid as a penſion to the prior of Lewes, for his portion of tithes here, and was ſo charged in 1428; the other penſion of 10s. was paid to the prior of Caſtle Acre for his portion, both which, on the diſſolution, were given to the duke of Norfolk.

Sir Edmund Mundeford gave, and ſettled by deed of feoffment, Sept. 10, 1642, on ſir Thomas Wode-

houſe, bart. &c. and their heirs and aſſigns, two ſeveral parts of marſh, or fen-ground, in Feltwell; in South-Fen one containing ſix hundred acres, called Ten feet-ground; and the other containing two hundred and forty acres, called the Wannace, on this truſt and confidence, that from and after his deceaſe, when the ſaid two ſeveral parts of marſh or fen-ground, ſhall be by means of draining, &c. made rent the ſum of three ſcore pounds per ann. then 20l. of the yearly iſſues and profits thereof ſhall be diſpoſed yearly in buying of frize, or ſome other cloathing, to be diſtributed unto, and amongſt the poorer ſort of people inhabiting in Feltwell which have heretofore been born, or ſhall be born in Feltwell, and the reſidue of the yearly profits, viz. 40l. ſhall be diſpoſed yearly for and towards the maintenance of a free-ſchool in the ſaid town, for the teaching of the children of the inhabitants grammar, and other learning, freely; and if the ſaid lands ſhould become worth more then 60l. per ann. the ſurpluſage ſhall be retained and kept by the feoffees, till the ſame ſhall amount to ſo much as the ſaid feoffees, or their ſucceſſors, may purchaſe therewith ſome convenient ground in Feltwell, with a convenient houſe thereupon, or elſe to build one, for an alms-houſe for the placing and dwelling of poor, aged, and impotent people therein, inhabiting in Feltwell aforeſaid, and then the ſurpluſage above 60l. per ann. ſhall be yearly beſtowed amongſt the poor people of the ſaid alms-houſe.

Mr. Blomfield gives us a liſt of burials and marriages, and obſerves, that "the regiſters in churches were firſt appointed to be kept in 1538, juſt upon the diſſolution of monaſteries, and ſince that time have proved ſome of our beſt helps towards the preſerving of hiſtory; their uſe (as a learned biſhop obſerves) might

might be of a further extent, if care was taken to regifter the moft remarkable occurrences relating to the *public* concerns of the feveral parifhes, fuch as receverips of benefactions, properties in feats, or aifles, rights of advowfon, &c. But it will be our everlafting reproach, if inftead of thus improving the good defigns of our anceftors for the continuance of their names and memories) we omit even that part of our duty which is now enjoined by an eccleliaftical, as well as civil authority, and record matters in church books after fuch a manner as will only ferve to render them monuments of our negligence; for fince inquifitions *poft mortem* are now taken away by the ftatute of 12 Car. II. the entries in thefe books are now become the chief evidences to prove pedigrees, and defcents, on which titles to eftates do often depend. Therefore it behoves all rectors, vicars, &c. to be careful in this cafe, and not to commit fuch books into the hands, and much more to the truft and keeping of illiterate perfons, on any account whatever;" to which neceffary admonition we very heartily fubfcribe.

This populous and extenfive village is inhabited by about 1000 fouls, who are chiefly employed in hufbandry and embanking. A very large diftrict of the Bedford South Level belongs to this town.

In 1778 the Rev. Henry Pritchard was prefented to the rectory of Feltwell St. Mary by his prefent majefty, George III.

HOCKWOLD ftands at the fouth-weft point of this hundred, clofe north of the little Oufe, near the great Level of the fens; it belonged, together with Wilton, (to which it now joins, and of which it was then a part,) to Alveva, a Saxon lady, in the reign of the

the Confeſſor; at the ſurvey William earl Warren was lord; in the Confeſſor's time they were valued at 6l. per ann. at the ſurvey at 10l. and were both one league long, and half a one broad, and paid together 17d. of the 20s. gelt. It occurs in the ſurvey by the name of Hocuuella; Hoc, or Hoke, ſignifies a dirty low ſituation, a vale, ſometimes an angle, nook, or corner, and Wella, a place or ſpring of water; the other name, Hockwold, relates to its ſcite, in reſpect of Northwold and Methwold.

Fulk de Beaufo was lord of this town, and Wilton, in the reign of king John, which he held of the earl Warren; this Fulk having no heirs male, theſe townſhips were divided amongſt his four daughters, one of whom, Agatha, married to ſir Robert Aguillon, had alſo four daughters and co-heirs; 1. Agatha, who married ſir Adam de Cokefield; 2. Iſabel, married to Luke de Poinings; 3. Margery, to ſir Giles Argenton, and after to Jordan to Sackville; and 4. Joan, to Ralph Fitz-Bernard, knt. which ſtill occaſioned a further diviſion of the townſhip, as will appear from the following:

Poinings Manor. Sir Robert Aguillon held a lordſhip in theſe towns in the 20th of Edward III. when an aid was granted to that king. In the 3d of Edward I. ſir Luke de Poinings*, who married Iſabel, daughter and co-heir of ſir Robert Aguillon, had a lordſhip here, and claimed the aſſize of bread and beer. In the 1ſt of Edward III. Michael de Poinings ſeized on Thomas, his ſon, the advowſon of Hockwold, and Wilton; Michael lord Poinings by deed, dated before Calais, July 20, 1347, granted his

* This Luke had alſo the ſhare, or part, of Joan, married to Fitz-Bernard.

his creſt of a dragon's head between two wings ermine to ſir Stephen de Valoynes, knt. about the ſame time that that lord had a grant from Edward III. of two hundred marks a year, for the better ſupport of the honor of a banneret, which he received of the king.

In the 4th of Richard II. Richard, ſecond ſon of Michael lord Poinings, was lord; he was one of thoſe noblemen who accompanied John duke of Lancaſter into Spain, in the 9th of the ſaid king, and had a protection on that account.

After this it was held by ſir Edward Poinings, lord warden of the cinque ports, who preſented to the church of Hockwold in 1497, and died on the 20th of October, in the 13th of Henry VIII. Henry earl of Northumberland was then found his couſin and next heir, his grandfather having married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Richard Poinings, eldeſt ſon of Robert lord Poinings; which Richard died in 1430, before his father, and the aforeſaid earl had livery of it in the 14th of Henry VIII. but in the 21ſt of that king a fine was levied between Robert Ratcliff, viſcount Fitz-Walter, Thomas duke of Norfolk, George lord Haſtings, ſir Richard Walden, knt. &c. querents, and Henry earl of Northumberland, defendant, of this manor, an act of parliament being before this paſſed, that all the lands of the earl of Northumberland, for want of heirs of the body of the ſaid earl, ſhould come to the king.

Afterwards it was conveyed by Robert earl of Suſſex to Thomas Tindale, eſq. ſon of ſir John Tindale, and William Tindale, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Thomas; John Tindale, his brother, ſold it to ſir William Paſton.

Clement

Clement Paſton, eſq. on the 20th of January, in the 28th of Elizabeth, had this manor of Poinings, with thoſe of Scale's, Mundeford's, and Stenckey's, in Hockwold, and Wilton; and by an inquiſition taken September 3, 1613, after the death of ſir William Paſton, it was found that he had ſettled the aforeſaid manors, ſeveral marſhes in Feltwell, &c. by deed, dated September 30, in the 44th of Elizabeth, on Bridget Heveningham, wife of ſir John Heveningham, his grand-daughter, after his own deceaſe, and her iſſue in tail male. William Heveningham, eſq. ſon of ſir John, was lord in 1631, and preſented that year to the church of Hockwold. This William was one of the regicides of Charles I. and being attainted in 1660, this, with the manors abovementioned, came to the crown; and on September 28, 1661, were granted to Bryan viſcount Cullen, ſir Ralph Banks, ſir Thomas Fanſhaw, knight of the bath, Edward Pitts, and Charles Cornwallis, eſq. and by them were ſold to ſir John Crofts, bart. of Weſtow, in Suffolk, and after his death, and that of his lady, were conveyed by her executor, Edward Proger, eſq. groom of the king's bed-chamber, to ſir Cyril Wyche, on the payment of 12,000l. Sir Cyril was ſecretary of ſtate in Ireland in the reign of William III. and was the ſon of ſir Peter Wyche, of London, and Iſabel, his wife, daughter of ſir Robert Ellis, of Lincolnſhire, which ſir Peter was ambaſſador in Turkey, comptroller of the king's houſhold, and one of his privy council. Sir Cyril dying on the 28th of December, 1707, left this lordſhip, &c. to his ſon, Jermyn Wyche, eſq. and it is now enjoyed by his ſon, Cyril Wyche, eſq. who has a good agreeable ſeat, with gardens, &c. near the church of Hockwold, built by William Heveningham, eſq. but much improved by the preſent owner.

Scales's Manor. Robert de Scales by his marriage with Margery, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Fulk de Beaufoe, had a part and lordſhip in this town, and in the reign of Henry III. held three quarters of a fee in Hockwold and Wilton. In the reign of Henry VI. Robert lord Scales held the ſame. After this it was held by Anthony Woodvile, lord Scales, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and co-heir of the lord Scales; on the death of the ſaid Elizabeth, without iſſue, it deſcended to William Tindale, who was knighted at the creation of Arthur prince of Wales, and declared heir of the kingdom of Bohemia, in right of Margaret, his great-grandmother, daughter of the duke of Theiſe, and niece to the king of Bohemia, the wife of ſir Simon Felbrigg, whoſe daughter and heireſs, Alana, was married to ſir William Tindale, of Dean, in Northamptonſhire, and Redenhall, in Norfolk, &c. grandfather of the aforeſaid ſir William Tindale, of Hockwold, who kept his firſt court here in the 6th of Edward IV. This ſir William died February 22, in the 12th of Henry VII. and John was his ſon and heir, who was created knight of the bath at the coronation of queen Ann Boleyn, and married Amphelia, daughter of ſir Humphry Conningſby, one of the juſtices of the common pleas; he was ſucceeded by his ſon, ſir Thomas Tindale, who on December 14, in the 26th of Henry VIII. ſettled this lordſhip for the payment of 42l. per ann. by way of jointure, on dame Winifred, his ſecond wife, and William Tindale, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Thomas, with his brother, John, ſold it (as has been before obſerved in the manner of Poinings, to ſir William Paſton) and ſo it came, as above, to Cyril Wyche, eſq. the preſent lord.

Mundeford's

MUNDEFORD'S MANOR. In the 56th of Henry III. Adam de Mundeford had lands here, and in Wilton, and Mundeford.

In the reign of Edward I. John Mundeford held in Hockwold, and Wilton, three quarters of a fee of the earl Warren, which was given him by Thomas de Ingaldesthorpe, who married Joan, one of the daughters and co-heireſſes of Fulk de Beauſoe, the aforeſaid John having married Sibill, daughter of the ſaid Thomas.

In this family the manor remained ſome time; they had a houſe here, and ſeveral of them were buried in the church of Hockwold, and gave conſiderable donations to the ſeveral pariſhes they had an intereſt in.

Oſbert, his ſon and heir, ſucceeded, and by his will dated at Hockwold, October 4, 1456, and proved the 20th of December following, he bequeaths his body to be buried in the church of Hockwold St. Peter's, before the chancel door, and gives to the churches of Hockwold, Wilton, Mundeford, Eaſt-Lexham, Norton, by Fakenham, in Norfolk, and Barrow, in Suffolk, 6s. 8d. a-piece, and ſeven marks to be diſtributed among the poor of Hockwold, Wilton, Mundeford, Feltwell, Methwold, Northwold, Cranewyz, and Weeting, for a feaſt at his burial; to the guild, or fraternity of Hockwold St. Peter, 6s. 8d. to that of St. Mary of Weeting, 6s. 8d. and the ſaid ſum to St. Margaret's of Norton. To Margaret his wife, a chamber in his houſe at Hockwold, for her and her maid, and 12 marks yearly; alſo meat, drink, wood, and candle, out of the iſſues of his manors in the ſaid towns, and the moiety of his houſhold goods for life, the remainder to Oſbert his ſon, and Elizabeth his daughter; to Elizabeth, daughter of Oſbert his ſon,

20 ſheep

20 fheep; to Effelina, wife of Adam, his brother, 20 fheep; to Adam, his brother, 40l. per ann. out of his manor of Barrow, in Suffolk.

The laft was Olbert de Mundeford, and he dying without iffue male, left only a daughter and heirefs, who being married to fir William Tindale, knight of the bath, (who died in the 12th of Henry VII.) brought this lordfhip into the family; from which it paffed, as is before fhewn, to the prefent lord, Cyril Wyche, efq.

The Mundefords were of an ancient and noble extraction, defcended (as it is faid) from Hugh de Montfort, one of the commanders of the army of duke William (afterwards king of England) againft Henry king of France in 1054.

In the 19th of Richard II. John de Mundeford was lord of Felmingham, in right of Joan his wife, relict of Roger Roys, efq. and was one of thofe gentlemen of ancient coat armour who were appointed as part of the 20 lances out of this county, fent to Henry V. into France.—*Ragnan's Bag. in the exchequer.*

Carle's Manor. In the reign of Henry III. John Carle, and John de Hockwold, held one quarter of a fee of Adam de Cokefield, and Andrew de Sackville, which came to them by Agatha and Margery, two of the daughters and coheirs of Aguillon. In the 9th of Edward II. John de Hockwold was returned as lord; but in the 20th of Edward III. Roger Poteys, and Richard Horn, held here, and in Wilton, one quarter of a fee, which was John Carle's, and John de Hockwold's. After this, in the 34th of Henry VIII. Edmund Prat had it, and died lord; and in 1650 Olbert Prat. After this it was fold to the mat-

ter

ter and fellows of Caius college, in Cambridge, and is now held by Cyril Wyche, efq. by leafe from that fociety.

Cokefield's, alias Ellingham's, or Allen's Manor. In the reign of Henry III. Adam de Cokefield, and Andrew de Sackville, held three quarters of a fee in Hockwold, and Wilton, of the earl Warren, and the earl of the king.

In the 9th of Edward II. John de Cokefield, by deed, dated on Wednefday before the feaft of St. Barnaby, in the 10th of the faid king, granted to William Bateman, citizen of Norwich, this manor in Wilton and Hockwold, with the advowfon of the church of Hockwold. In the 29th of Henry III. Roger Poteys was lord.

In the 3d of Richard II. John Wright, of Hockwold, and Sibill his wife, daughter of Agnes Poteys, and Joan, daughter of Catherine Poteys, fifter of the faid Agnes, granted to Olbert Mundeford this manor, which John de Ellingham, and Emma his wife, held for her life, on the death of John Poteys their coufin. In 1453 John Alleyn died lord. In the 10th of Elizabeth it was held by Thomas Watts. In the 21ft of James I. Francis Baxter, of Stanford-Rivers, in Eflex, was lord, who in 1631 conveyed it to Thomas Heyward, gent. for 2400l. and Heyward, in the fame year, conveyed part of it to Richard Tyrrell, gent. and part to William Rolph, and it is now poffeffed by Cyril Wyche, efq.

Stewkey, or Stukey's Manor. Thomas de Ingaldefthorpe, by deed, dated Auguft 20, in the 5th of Edward II. gave to John de Mundeford his manor of Stewkey, in Wilton, and Hockwold, being the fourth part

part of the ſaid townſhips, with the advowſon of the church of Hockwold. This was held in the ſame family till Mary, daughter and heir of Oſbert de Mundeford, brought it to ſir William Tindale, from whom it paſſed to Paſton, Heveningham, &c. and is now enjoyed by Cyril Wyche, eſq.

The temporalities of the abbeſs of Elſtowe were valued at 15s.

The prioreſs and nuns of Thetford had a moor here, and a fiſhery, which, on the diſſolution, came to John Eyre, eſq. who ſold it in the 38th of Henry VIII. to Thomas Tindale, eſq. and ſo it became annexed to the lordſhip of this town.

There is a little peddling fair kept here on St. James's day, July 25, which is the remains of the wake, or dedication-day of Wilton church, which is dedicated to that Apoſtle, as is before obſerved, but it is commonly called Hockwold-fair.

The church of Hockwold is dedicated to St. Peter, and has a ſouth aile annexed to the nave, or body, which is in length about 47 feet, and in breadth, with the nave, about 36 feet, built of flint and boulder. On the pavement lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones, in memory of the Mundefords, but the braſs plates are all reaved. At the weſt end ſtands a four-ſquare tower of flint, &c. adorned with quoins of free-ſtone, in which hang three bells.

In a north window of the nave are two ſhields, one of Fincham.

The chancel is of the ſame materials with the church, but covered with reed, and is in length

about 37 feet, and in breadth about 23. At the upper end of the south wall are three neat arches of stone, worked in the wall, making three seats, or stalls, for bishop, priest, and deacon; and at the head of these seats is another arch for holy water. On the summit of these arches are several shields, now *daubed* over with whiting. Against the east wall of the chancel is a large marble compartment, with the busts of a man and a woman in alabaster, and ornamented with several instruments of music, with two angels, one on each side of the monument, and two pillars of the Corinthian order. On the top is the shield of Wyche. One of the angels bears in his hand a music-book, the other a shield, viz. Hungerford, and this inscription,——*Maria Hungerford, Johannis Hungerford, armiger: ex eadem fecum antiqua stirpe oriundi, vidua, omnibus virtutibus ornata, munificentia in pauperes ornatissima, piam efflavit animam,* 21 *die Augusti*, 1719.

Jermyn Wyche, armiger, Cyrilli Wyche militis filius qui uxorem duxit Mariam Hungerford, unicam Mariæ et Johan: filiam, virtutum et rei ex æquo Hæredem, de qua tres qui superstunt, suscepit liberos, vir sciens, prudensq; legum vindex acerrimus, obiit 7 *Janu.* 1719. *Hoc marmor pietatis et amoris, ergo posuit Maria Wych e filia et uxor.*

Against the end of the north wall is a little compartment, inscribed—*To William Smyth, rector of this parish of Hockwold, who died December* 28, 1665, *aged* 64 *years. And of Martha his wife, who died in March,* 1668, *aged* 52.

Against the north wall of the chancel are these funeral atchievements; Heveningham impaling—, and Wyche impaling Norris.

On

On the area of the chancel lies a black marble ſtone, in memory of colonel Arthur Heveningham, ſecond brother of William Heveningham, of Heveningham, in Suffolk, eſq. who died February 20, 1657.

Alſo a grey marble, with the effigy of a woman in braſs; by her ſide, on a braſs plate, nine children are pourtrayed, and, on a plate below, part of the epitaph is remaining, viz.

Quiſquis eris qui tranſieris ſta perlege, plora,
Sum quod eris, fueramq; quod es, pro me precor, ora.

Ovitus Amfelicie Tendall decimo octavo die menſis Januar. an. Dni milleſimo CCCCCXXXII.°

Adjoining to this is a graveſtone, in memory of William Lyng, ſenior fellow of Caius college, Cambridge, and rector of this pariſh, who died January 13, 1679, ætat. ſuæ 54, and his arms.

On a north window of the chancel,——*Orate pro animabus Johannis Bun - - - - - - - anno Domini* MCCCCCXV.

In the 28th of Edward I. the king recovered the preſentation againſt Edmund de Cokefield, the heir of Andrew de Sackville, being under age, and in ward to the king; and in the 7th of Edward III. the king recovered againſt Margaret, widow of Michael de Poinings, by *quare impedit*, in the right of Robert de Scales, under age, and in ward to the king.

In 1349 ſir Robert Scales, knt. and Oſbert de Mundeford, releaſed their right in the patronage to ſir Michael de Poinings, in which family it long remained.

Norwich Doomſday-book tells us, that ſir Luke de Poinings had two turns, ſir Adam de Cokefield the third, and ſir Reginald de Argentein the fourth; and that there was a houſe and 40 acres of land, &c.

In 1663 all the four portions, or turns, were conſolidated; and Auguſt, 16, 1744, the ſame were conſolidated with Wilton.

In the rector's anſwer to the king's queries in 1603, he ſays there were 173 communicants in this pariſh.

This rectory is valued at 9l. 13s. 11d. ob. in the king's books, and pays firſt fruits 8l. 14s. 4d. 3q. Tenths 19s. 4d. 3q.

In 1746 the Rev. William Adamſon was preſented to the rectory of Hockwold, *cum* Wilton, by Gonvile and Caius college, Cambridge.

The two villages of Hockwold and Wilton form a ſtreet of one mile in length, and is well inhabited: Divine ſervice is done at each church alternately.

WILTON. Two miles weſt of Weeting, and on the north ſide of the little Ouſe, ſtands this village, which derives its name from its ſcite, a town of water, or ſprings. As it always had the ſame lords with Hockwold, from the Confeſſor's time to the preſent, we have treated of the temporal ſtate of it in that place, it being now called Hockwold-Wilton, though in old writings more properly Wilton-Hockwold, this being the head town of the two. Doomſday-book, fol. 49, tells us, that the king had three borderers in Wella (which we take to be Hocuuella) belonging to his manor of Methwold.

The

The church of Wilton is dedicated to St. James; it has only a nave, or body, with a chancel built of flint and boulder, and covered with reed; the nave is in length about fifty-seven feet, and thirty in breadth.

At the upper end of the nave, near the reading desk, lies a marble stone, with a brass plate thus inscribed:—*Orate pro anima Johannis Buckton, qui obijt* v°. *die Febr. A°. Dni.* M°cccc°xi. *et pro anima Johanne uxoris ejus quorum animabus propicietur Deus.*

At the west end of the nave stands a strong four-square tower of flint, &c. with quoins and battlements of free-stone, in which hang five bells, and on that is an octangular spire of free-stone. The chancel is about thirty-eight feet in length, and twenty-two in breadth.

Against the south wall is a compartment of stone, and on the summit. Colborne impaling Tyrrell; and under it an epitaph,—*To Mary, the wife of Edward Colborne, some time of Bramford, in the county of Suffolk, gent. eldest daughter of Robert Tyrrell, of Wilton, in the county of Norfolk, esq. She died November* 30, 1683, *aged* 44.

On the north side is a curious worked arch in the wall, and below an old grave-stone without any arms, or inscription.

On the pannels of the wainscot partition behind the altar are shields of the arms of the lords Scales, Poinings, Arundel, earl Warren, and lord St. George; and several religious subjects.

The prior of Lewes was taxed for his spiritualities, or portion here, in 1428, at 50s. the prior of Flitcham for his temporalities 6s. 8d. and the prior of Berriwell for his marsh 3s.

When Norwich Doomsday-book was composed this was a rectory, the rector had a house and forty acres of glebe land, and the prior and convent of Lewes, in Suffex, had the patronage given them by one of the earls Warren, who founded the priory.

In 1299, October 15, the prior of Lewes presented; and in 1338, March 16, John earl Warren, the advowsons of all the benefices belonging to the priory of Lewes being given to that earl by the king, who assumed at this time the priory aliens, on his wars with France, into his own hands, and Lewes was one of them.

The patronage of the rectory, with the glebes, pensions, &c. was bought by the master and fellows of Gonvile-Hall, in Cambridge, of Hugh de Chintriaco, prior, &c. of Lewes, and sir Edmund Hengrave, with the licence of Richard earl of Arundel, lord of the fee, and the rectory was about the year 1350 appropriated by the bishop of Norwich to that college. At this present time it belongs to the said college, and is said to consist of one acre and two roods of hempland, and two common parts, containing fifty acres, besides one hundred and twenty acres of arable land, with the tithe corn, &c.

In 1386, August 22, the vicar was presented by the master and fellows of Gonvile-Hall, as were the succeeding vicars.

February 8, 1325, mention is made of the chapel of our Lady in the church of St. James, of Wilton.

In the vicar's anſwer to king James's queries in 1603, he ſays there were one hundred and ſixty communicants.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 6l. 7s. 6d. and was diſcharged of firſt fruits, as appears from the anſwer of the clergy in 1603; the tenths were 12s. 9d. and of theſe it was diſcharged by queen Anne, being in clear value 41l. per ann.

In 1744, Auguſt 14, this church was conſolidated with Hockwold; and in 1746 the Rev. William Adamſon was preſented by Gonvile and Caius college, Cambridge, *p. j.*

ICKBURGH, or ICKBOROUGH. This village lies eaſt of Colvelton, on the north ſide of the river Wiſſey, the London road to Swaffham, Walſingham, &c. running through it: Dr. Gale, in his Commentary on Antoninus, makes this a Roman Station, (the Iciani); and of the ſame opinion was the learned Mr. Talbot; though a modern author places the Iciani at Colcheſter, and even the Villa Fauſtini at Malden, in Eſſex; but moſt authors diſſent from him. It is certain that the diſtance betwixt this town, and that of Bury, (generally agreed to be the Villa Fauſtini) as obſerved by Antoninus, exactly anſwers, take which route you pleaſe, either through Brandon or Thetford, and that the road here leading to Swaffham, &c. is broad, direct, and level, and has an air of antiquity and grandeur which appears to every traveller; and in the plantations at Lynford, within a mile of Ickburgh, and at the building of the new hall there, ſeveral Roman urns have been lately dug up;

and on the road towards Bury was a large *milliare* lately to be feen, which might be the *primus ab urbe lapis*, the diſtance anſwering. Sir Henry Spelman obſerves, that the Iceni, by which name this part of the heptarchy was diſtinguiſhed in the time of the Saxons, and on which the Roman Iciani is founded, is a Britiſh term, derived from the river Ife, or Ichen, and indeed this is a conjecture highly probable, moſt of the rivers in Norfolk ſtill retaining (though varying a little) the ſame name. The great river which flows between this county and Cambridgeſhire, and empties itſelf into the ſea about Lynn, is called the Ouſe Magna. That river which divides the ſouth-weſt part of this county from Suffolk, has the name of the Ouſe Parva; and that river which is in a good meaſure the boundary of the hundred of Grimſhoe, from thoſe of Clackeloſe and South Greenhoe, is called the Wiſſey, which comes very near to the Britiſh word Ife before mentioned; and on the north ſide of this Ife, or Wiſſey, ſtands the town of Icheburc, as it is wrote in Doomſday book, that is a town, or burgh, on the Ife, or Icheburna, (as it is alſo wrote) which is the bourn, brook, or river Ife.

At the time of the ſurvey, in the reign of William the Conqueror, Walter Giffard held the greateſt part of this town, which four free-men held in the time of the Confeſſor, valued then at 20s. and at the ſurvey at 30s. per ann. This part was half a leuca in length, and half a one in breadth, and paid 8d. of the 20s. gelt.

He alſo held here, and in Lynford, what fourteen free-men held in the time of the Confeſſor, valued then at 20s. at the ſurvey at 10s. per ann. Theſe free-men were under the protection of the anceſtor of Ralph de Waer, and were afterwards delivered to

Bodin de Ver, who took part with the king, but afterwards Ralph attached them to his own fee, and when he forfeited he was their lord, and Hervey de Ver held them of him, as the hundred fays.

Walter Giffard was the fon of Oſborn de Bolebec; he was made earl of Bucks on the conqueſt, and had many lordſhips given him. After the death of this earl, and his fon, this lordſhip deſcended to Richard Fitz-Gilbert, earl of Brion, &c. in Normandy, who married Rohefia, daughter of this Walter Giffard, and had by her Gilbert Fitz-Richard, the firſt earl of Clare, lord of this town, and the greateſt part of it was held of theſe lords by the ancient family of Langetot, from which family Stow-Langtot, in Suffolk, derives its name; and in the 1ſt of king John Gilbert de Langetot bought of William de Bellemont the ſervice of two knights fees, &c. in Ickburgh, Brinton, Witchingham, Shottiſham, Saxlingham, &c. In this family this lordſhip continued till the 2d of Richard II. when Nicholas de Langetot of Mundeford, releaſed by deed to John Churchman all his right in the manor and advowſon; and in 1385 he preſented to the church: this John was citizen and ſheriff of London. In the 1ſt of Henry IV. he conveyed it to James Billingford, clerk of the crown, who held it of the honor of Clare.

In 1416 John Bungey, clerk, Thomas Fekys, of Colveſton, and Simon Coupere, preſented to the church by right of the manor of Ickburgh.

In 1448 Richard Geggh, eſq. as lord, preſented to the church; and Hugh Fenn in 1454, &c. but in 1478 George Neville, lord Abergavenny, held it and preſented;

preſented; and in the 19th of Henry VII. Richard Fox, biſhop of Wincheſter.

In 2518 Sir Edward Benſtede was lord, and preſented; and in the 18th of Henry VIII. William Purdee, of Hertingford Bury, in Hertfordſhire, and the lady Jocoſa, his wife, late wife of ſir Edward Benſtede, conveyed the manor by fine to John Crofts, of Weſtow, in Suffolk; after this it came it came to the family of the Bedingfields, of Oxburgh. About the end of the reign of Charles I. it was ſold by ſir Henry Bedingfield to the Garrards, of Langford; and in 1680 ſir Thomas Garrard, bart. preſented to the church; his ſon, ſir Nicholas, dying in 1727, without iſſue, the manor is at preſent held by ſir Francis Bickley, bart. who married Alathea, eldeſt daughter of Jacob Garrard, eſq. eldeſt ſon of ſir Thomas Garrard, bart. who died before his father, by which Alathea there is no iſſue. Charles Downing, eſq. third ſon of ſir George Downing, of Cambridgeſhire, who married Sarah, the ſecond daughter, has by her a ſon and heir.

Chevere's Manor. Part of this town (a moiety only of that land which was held here, and in Lynford, by fourteen free-men) was held in the reign of Henry III. by ſir Hamon Chevere, knt. who in the 14th of that king conveyed it to Drogo de Barentine; and in the ſaid year he had a grant of weekly market, and a fair yearly, Aug. 10, with free-warren in all his demeſne lands here; this was held by William de Barentine, ſon of the ſaid Drogo, who founded the chapel and hoſpital of Lepers, in this town, and gave conſiderable lands, and part of his lordſhip to it. The remaining part was afterwards held by John de Crethingham; but in the 10th of the ſaid king John Veyle, and Thomas Veyle, of Bodney, nephews and

and heirs of John Creſſingham, releaſed to John Churchman their right in this manor; and in that year Richard Holditch did the ſame. In the 12th of the ſaid king Richard Mey, of Ickburgh, releaſed to the aforeſaid John all his right in the manor, &c. ſo that Churchman, being poſſeſſed of the whole, joined it to his other manor, and conveyed it, thus united, to James Billingford; ſince that time it hath been united, and hath the ſame lords.

Beſides the manors before mentioned Ralph de Tony held thirty acres of land here at the ſurvey, valued with his manor of Necton, which extended into this town, and this part was held in the time of the Confeſſor by a ſocman of Harold, but was ſoon after annexed to the other manors, as we meet with no further account of it.

The monks of Caſtle Acre had lands, &c. in this town given by Henry de Stanford. In the beginning of the reign of Henry III. Hugh, prior and convent of Lewes, granted them a tenement, held at the yearly rent of 11d. and ſir Hamon Chevere, knt. acknowledges to have received of the prior of Caſtle Acre, &c. the ſaid tenement, paying the yearly rent of 12s. 1d. for that and 112 acres of land. The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The church is an old ſingle building of flint and pebbles, covered with reed, and firſt dedicated to St. Bartholomew, then to St. Peter, in length about forty-four feet, and eighteen in breadth; at the weſt end is a ſquare tower of the aforeſaid materials, with quoins and battlements of free-ſtone, in which hang three bells.

On

On the cornice of the ſcreen that divides the church from the chancel, over which ſtood the old rood loft, are ſeveral ſhields painted, but through length of time moſtly defaced and obſcure, viz. Langetot; Filiot; lord Tey; earl of Arundel; earl Warren; Mortimer earl of March; Bohun earl of Eſſex; France and England quarterly, with a label, Plantagenet; three oſtriches feathers arg. prince of Wales.

Edward the Black Prince uſed ſometimes one feather, ſometimes three in his arms, in token (as it is ſaid) of his ſpeedy execution in all his ſervices, as the poſts in the Roman ſtate wore feathers to ſignify their flying poſt-haſte; but the truth is, that prince won theſe arms at the battle of Creſſy, from John king of Bohemia, whom he there ſlew, and adjoined this old Engliſh motto, *Ich Dien, (I ſerve)*; according to the apoſtle, *The heir, while he is a child, differeth nothing from the ſervant.*

On the right hand are the arms of France and England quarterly; Brotherton earl of Norfolk; Beauchamp earl of Warwick; Vere earl of Oxford; Tey; lord Scales; Stapleton, &c. Beſides theſe ſhields, here were formerly in this church the arms of Churchman, Billingford, and Cliſton.

The chancel is in length about twenty-ſix feet, and eighteen in breadth; in the eaſt window is the figure of St. Catherine; and in a window on the north ſide that of the Virgin. On the pavement lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones, ſome ridged, and with croſſes floral cut on them, in memory of ſome ancient rectors.

In the rector's anſwer to king James's queries, in 1603, he obſerves that there were fifty-five communicants.

Thomas

Thomas Riſeing, A. M. rector here, was ejected in the time of the Uſurpation, and loſt a temporal eſtate of 50l. per ann.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at 5l. 6s. 10d. ob. it was conſolidated to Langford about 1676; the clear value of both being 43l. 6s. 8d. it is diſcharged of tenths and firſt fruits.

In 1758 the Rev. Thomas Batman was preſented to this rectory, with Langford.

The HERMITAGE, or HOUSE of LEPERS, at ICKBURGH, ſtood in the ſouth part of the town, a little diſtance from, and on the north ſide of the river Wiſſey. In old writings it is frequently called, *The Houſe of Lepers, at the New-Bridge, in Ickburgh*, that bridge, which is neareſt to the ſaid hermitage, being in reſpect to the other, (which is over the Wiſſey) a new one, and erected, moſt likely, by the founder of this houſe, for the ſafety of travellers on great floods, yet (as it is probable) on a certain toll, or duty, payable to the houſe, a chain going croſs the ſaid bridge at this day, and the key belonging to it being kept at the ſaid place. It is moſt likely that the ſaid bridge was alſo formerly maintained by the hermit, or cuſtos of this houſe.

That the run, or water-courſe, over which the bridge is erected, was to be cleared by him, appears from an old roll that we have ſeen, when at a leet kept in the begining of the reign of Henry VII. John Canon, chaplain of St. Laurence, in Ickburgh, was fined 12d. for *not* drawing and ſcouring the water-courſe on the ſouth ſide of the chapel. It was founded by William Barentine in the reign of Edward I. who granted certain lands, &c. here to celebrate

brate mafs in the chapel of St. Mary of Newbridge. In the 17th of Edward II. there was an hofpital of lepers here. And that there was an hermit, maſter, or chaplain, and brethren, in the reign of king Henry IV. appears from a bull of pope Gregory XII. granted to this houſe. By this bull, dated 7 id. March, in the 3d year of his pontificate, they and all their lands were freed from the payment of tithes, and all fecular fervices.

This hofpital was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Laurence, the chapel is built of flint and boulder, about 30 feet in length, and 20 in breadth, and is now converted into a farm-houſe, having an additional building at the weſt end.

It was alſo endowed by the founder with the rights and privileges of a fair, held here on St. Laurence's day, Auguſt 10. John de la Rokele, who had the patronage, was a conſiderable benefactor, and gave to this houſe in the reign of Edward III. 59 acres, and 2 roods of land, 12d. 1q. rent, and the liberty of a fold-courſe here. From Rokele the patronage came, by marriage, to Edmund de Ingaldeſthorpe, and John de Ingaldeſthorpe conveyed it, October 20, in the 27th of Henry VI. to ſir Thomas Tuddenham, knt. of Oxburgh. From ſir Thomas it came, by the marriage of Margaret, his ſiſter and heir, to Edmund Bedingfield, elq. and in the 21ſt of Edward IV. Edmund Bedingfield, elq. afterwards knight of the bath, and grandſon to the aforeſaid Edmund, preſented William Dane to be hermit and chaplain here, who was to pray for the ſaid Edmund, and all the patrons of the houſe, and in this family it continued till the diſſolution.

On

On the 10th of Auguſt, in the 2d of Edward VI. Olbert Mundeford, of Feltwell, and Thomas Gawdy, of Shouteſham, in Norfolk, for 900l. had the grant of all this chantry, or chapel, called Newbridge, with the appurtenances; afterwards it was held by ſir Henry Bedingfield, who conveyed it in the 1ſt of queen Mary to Robert Bate, of Hoxne, in Suffolk, and Gabriel Bate, his ſon, conveyed it to Robert Aſtley, he to John Wormeley, in the 24th of Elizabeth, and in 1606 Wormley Martin, and John Martin, conveyed it to George Eades, and by Frances, daughter and heir of Edmund Eades, it came to Henry North, eſq. who ſold it to Samuel Vincent, eſq. in 1682. From Vincent it came to Robert Partridge, eſq. of Buckenham-houſe, and ſo to Henry Partridge, eſq. his brother, whoſe ſon Henry lately conveyed it to Mr. Henry Cockſedge, of Thetford, the preſent owner.

It is to be obſerved, that hermitages were erected for the moſt part near great bridges, and high roads, as appears from this, and thoſe at Brandon, Downham, Stow-Bardolph, in Norfolk, and Erith, in the iſle of Ely, &c. but how ſuch ſcites and ſtations can anſwer the pretended deſign or intention will be difficult to be accounted for. They were alſo ſometimes erected in church-yards, in towns of conſiderable note, as may be ſeen from the petition of the mayor of Sudbury, in Suffolk, to the biſhop of Norwich, which being not foreign to our preſent purpoſe, we ſhall here adjoin.

" To youre ryght reverent lordſhepe and faderhod in God. We John Hunt, meyr, of the tonn of Sudbery, Henry Roberds, John Tournour, &c. pariſhyens to the cherche of Saynt Gregory, of the ſame tonn, in humble wyze comand us, as it befalleth us to your worſhepfull

worſhepfull eſtates to do. And forasmoche as we been informed that on Richard Appelby, of Sudbery, converſaunt with John Levynton, of the ſame tonn, hermyte, wheche Richard is a man as to oure conſicience knowen, a trewe member of Holy-Cherche, and a gode goſtly levere, &c. hath beſought unto your lordſhepe to be admitted into the ordre of an hermyte, and ye by youre gracious and ſpecial councell, would not admit him leſſe yanne he wer feyker to be inhabited in a ſolitary place, wher virtues might increaſe and vice to be exiled. We conſederyng youre ſayd paternell ordynaunce, and hys holy deſyr ſadly ſet, as we truſte to God it ſhall, and in hym better and better be founde, have graunted hym be the aſent of all the ſayd paryſh and cherch-reves, to be inhabited wyth ye ſayd John Levynton, in his ſolytary place and hermytage, which yat is made at the coſt of the paryſh, in the cherch-yard of Seynt Gregory cherch, to dwellyn togedyr as yey leven or whiche of them longeſt leveth, wherefore our ryght reverent lord and ſader in God, we entewrly beſeke your gracious benyngnyte to admite hym into that ordre, there to abyde your bedeman, the lords of the tonn and the pariſhyens, as we doe truſte to God he will be perſevarant, wheche God graunte him grace to. Moreover, ryght reverent lord and ſader in God, forasmoche as we will yat yis oure leter and graunt to be not annulled, but be us confirmed, we have in wytneſs put to oure ſeales, goven and graunted at Sudbery, the XXVIII day of Janyver, in the yere of lord, M.CCCC.XXXIII."

A late author gives a melancholy account of the modern hermits, "who, (he ſays) follow no other rule than that which is dictated to them by libertiniſm, and may be compared to the Sarabaites, &c. who, (as Jerom ſays) profeſſed indeed a religious life

in

in outward appearance, but really lived together in a ſad manner, after their own humour."

LYNFORD, or LINFORD, lies between Mundford and Buckenham Parva, and may derive its name from the Britiſh word *hlyn*, *palus*, and ſo ſignifies a fenny or miry ford, or, as ſome will have it, a ſpreading water; and in both theſe reſpects the paſſage over the river here, to Ickburgh, will very well anſwer, the ground near the water being boggy, and a mere fen, two rivers uniting a little above the town. It may alſo derive its name from *llwyn*, which ſignifies in the aforeſaid language a city, or large town, and ſo may have reſpect to the *Iciani* of the Romans, which it ſeems alſo to have had ſome relation to, if not to have been part of it, having the ſame lords and owners at, and before the conqueſt; and as we have obſerved before, at the building of Mr. Nelthorpe's houſe here (in 1720) two Roman urns were dug up, and in 1735 his gardener digging in the plantation, about a furlong weſt of the houſe, fell on a pavement of flint-ſtones, under which he found a ſmall Roman urn, in which were pieces of bones and aſhes.

At the Conqueror's ſurvey the town was held by two lords, Walter Giffard, and Roger Bigot, but the greateſt part of it belonged to Walter, who was earl of Bucks. In Ickburgh, and here, he had lands, which 14 freemen held in the time of the Confeſſor. Giffard's part came by marriage to the earls of Clare, and was held of them, being divided into two moieties or lordſhips. One moiety was held by a family that aſſumed their name from the town, for in the 4th of king John Thomas de Lynford was lord; but in the 34th of that king it was in the family of Creſſingham.

After this ſir John Clifton, knt. of Buckenham-caſtle, was lord, who, by his will dated in 1447, ordered John Brigges, of Quiddenham, to have an annuity out of it, and that he ſhould have the refuſal, if he would buy it, which he did, and by his will, dated in 1454, deviſed it to be ſold to the prior and convent of St Mary in Thetford, for eight ſcore marks, and by virtue of a licence granted by Henry VI. the ſaid prior and convent purchaſed of John duke of Norfolk, ſir Thomas Tuddenham, knt. Thomas Weleys, and William Brigges, the manor, advowſon, &c. The prior became lord of the whole town, and held it till the diſſolution of his houſe, and then Henry VIII. in his 32d year, granted the whole to Thomas duke of Norfolk, who being attainted in the 38th of the ſaid king, it reverted to the crown, and Edward VI. on February 20, in his 3d year, granted it to Richard Fulmerſton, and it came by the marriage of his daughter to ſir Edward Clere, who was lord; and on July 1, in the 23d of Elizabeth, the reverſion of it was granted by that queen to Philip earl of Arundel, a deſcendant of the aforeſaid duke of Norfolk, by whom it was ſold to Francis Mundeford, eſq. of Feltwell, and in 1603 was enjoyed by ſir Edward Mundeford, who then had his reſidence here, and his ſon, ſir Edward, dying without iſſue, in 1643, it was afterwards ſold by his ſiſters and co-heireſſes to Mr. Turner, attorney at law, whoſe ſon, ſir Charles Turner, conveyed it about 1717 to James Nelthorpe, eſq. who built a very agreeable ſeat, with pleaſant gardens, plantations, canals, &c. a little diſtance from the old hall, now the farm-houſe, and the only houſe in this place, beſides the new hall. James Nelthorpe, eſq. his grandſon, is the preſent lord.

In the reign of Henry III. William Baldwin held here a quarter of a fee, of Jordan Foliot, he of the earl

earl of Glouceſter, and the earl of the king, and this was the other moiety of Giffard's manor.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Richard Gegghe, and his parceners, held of John de Camois one quarter of a fee, and he of the earl of Clare, formerly William Baldwin's; but in the reign of Henry VI. it was conveyed, with the other moiety, to the prior and convent of Thetford. Here was alſo at the ſurvey a little lordſhip held by Roger Bigot, which Alſtan, a Saxon, was lord of, in the confeſſor's time, valued at 20d. and Stanart held it of Bigot. It was united in the reign of Henry VI. to the other manors, and with them conveyed to the priory of Thetford.

The abbot of Conchis, in France, was taxed for his temporalities here, in 1428, at 6s. and the abbot of Bury, for his, at 1d.

The church of Lynford has been demoliſhed a long time, it ſtood in the ſouth-weſt part of the court-yard, leading to the new hall; its ſcite is incloſed, and planted with Scotch firs, where may be obſerved ſeveral of the foundation-ſtones, and here ſeveral human bones were dug up.

The patronage appears to be ſeparated ſo early from the manor as in the 44th of Edward II. and in the 45th of that king Thomas de Heygham, &c. releaſed to the lady Elizabeth Aſpale all their right in the advowſon, lands, &c.

The patronage of this church was in the family of Holditch from 1402 to 1446.

In 1455 the manor and advowſon being ſold to the prior and convent of St Mary of Thetford, they ob-

tained in 1467, of the biſhop of Norwich, an appropriation of the church, and on this appropriation a penſion of 3s. 4d. was to be paid yearly to the ſee of Norwich, from the monaſtery; and the church was ſerved by a ſtipendiary curate till the diſſolution, and then coming into lay hands, the lord of the manor, as impropriator, was obliged to find a curate to ſupply it, though in the year 1598, on the 3d of Auguſt, we find by the inſtitution books, that Thomas Jackler, A. M. was inſtituted on the preſentation of ſir Edward Clere, on the death (as it is ſaid) of the laſt rector, but this is the only inſtitution we have met with, ſince that of Thomas Holditch, eſq. of Wiggenhall, in 1446. At preſent, the church being down, we do not find that there is any curate, or any allowance ma e to any perſon, the impropriator, as rector, making it a fine-cure.

It is not at preſent accounted for in the biſhop's regiſter.

METHWOLD lies north of Feltwell, and on the weſt ſide of the hundred. The principal part of it was given to the monaſtery of Ely, by Ethelwold biſhop of Wincheſter, in the time of king Edgar, and when the tenures and ſervices of ſeveral lordſhips belonging to that monaſtery were ſettled in the time of Leoffwine, the 5th abbot, this was obliged to furniſh the houſe with proviſions for two weeks in every year.

In the time of the Confeſſor Stigand archbiſhop of Canterbury was lord, and had the ſoc, but was deprived of it at the conqueſt. At the general ſurvey it was in the Conqueror's hands, and kept for him by William de Noiers. In the Confeſſor's time it was valued at 20l. at the ſurvey at 30l. per ann. It was two

leagues

leagues long, and half a one in breadth, and paid 2s. ob. gelt.

Another part or lordſhip was, at the ſurvey, held by William earl Warren, valued then at 45s. per ann. Simon and Jeffrey held of the ſaid earl two carucates, valued at 40s. per ann. and Stigand had the ſoc.

The town takes its name (as moſt do) from its ſcite, Methelwold, that is, the wold between Northwold, and Hockwold, the Middlewold; and thus it was wrote in the time of Henry II. when Simon de Middlewold was amerced 10 marks for pleading in court-chriſtian about lay-fees, juſt after the diſpute between Henry II. and Becket archbiſhop of Canterbury.

Soon after the ſurvey the Conqueror gave that lordſhip, which Stigand held, to the earl Warren, and thus he became lord of the whole town. In the reign of Henry III. the earl Warren held it of the king in capite, as parcel of his barony. In the 15th of Edward I. the earl claimed in his manor here a gallows, view of frankpledge, and free-warren; but in the 12th of Edward II. John earl Warren and Surrey, having no iſſue, ſettled this manor after his own deceaſe, with thoſe of Gimingham, Beeſton, and Thetford, the hundred of Brothercroſs and Gallow, and 39 knights fees in divers towns, with the king's licence, on Thomas earl of Lancaſter; and in the 21ſt of Edward III. this manor was held of the ſaid earl in free ſoccage, by the ſervice of one bearded arrow. There was a meſſuage and a pidgeon-houſe, valued yearly at 3l. 600 acres of arable land, price per acre per ann. 2d. 6 acres of meadow, valued at 6s. and one wind-mill valued at 20s. The Segges marſh was valued at 10l. and Redmere

marſh at 10l. Rents of aſſize in Methwold, Northwold, Woodriſing, Hilgay, and Wells, belonging to this manor, 7l. per ann. and with the days-works, cuſtoms, and ſervices of the tenants, 7l. per ann. more. The pleas and perquiſites of courts, with the leet in Methwold, Wells, and Hilgay, were worth 6l. per ann.

In the 28th of the ſaid king, Henry duke of Lancaſter held it of the king in free ſoccage, by the ſervice of a roſe; and on the death of the ſaid duke it was aſſigned, in the 35th of Edward III. to Maud, his daughter and co-heireſs, married to William duke of Heinault, and on her deceaſe, without iſſue, it came to Blanch, her ſiſter and co-heireſs, the wife of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter. John of Gaunt, by the lady Blanch, had Henry, his ſon and heir, duke of Lancaſter, and afterwards king of England, by the name of Henry IV. Thus it became veſted in the crown, and the ſucceeding kings, as dukes of Lancaſter, enjoy it, and the lord Berkley, of Stratton, holds it by leaſe from the crown.

Broomhill Manor. Beſides the capital manor of Methwold, there was one held by the prior, and given to that houſe by ſir Hugh de Playz, (which family held lands here of the earl Warren) on his founding the aforeſaid priory.

After this other lands were aliened, ſo that in 1428 the temporalities of that houſe were valued at 3l. 3s. per ann. On the diſſolution of the aforeſaid priory it was granted, together with that priory, to cardinal Wolſey, and came, after his attainder, to Chriſt's college, in which houſe it ſtill continues, and is leaſed out by that ſociety.

From

From the will of William Bachcroft, esq. of Bexwell, who died in 1518, we find the manors of Tuddenham, Gunton, and Hilly, in this town, of which he died possessed. Gunton's was held of the king, as parcel of the manor of Methwold, and the duchy of Lancaster in soccage, and paying 5s. rent per ann. and Hilly's was held as the other, paying 3s. 4d. per ann. They are now wholly lost, or neglected, and that of Gunton's is said to be in the hands of Robert Clough, esq. of Feltwell.

Otringhithe. In this hundred of Grimshoe we find a town in the general survey wrote Otrinkechia, and Otringheia, then the land of the earl Warren, and one Gaulter held then of the earl a mediety of the town, valued at 20s. It was four furlongs long, and three broad, and paid 4d gelt.

This name is now lost, but was the same place that we now call Methwold-hithe, a little hamlet about a mile west of the town, and now in the parish of Methwold. The family of De Playz had a considerable estate here, and in the reign of Henry II. there was a church, concerning the patronage of which there was a great controversy between sir Ralph de Playz and the convent of Acre, which was adjusted by William Turbus, bishop of Norwich, when it was allowed to be the right of the said Ralph, and his heirs for ever, to present to the same; and the person presented was to pay to the church of St. Mary de Acre 12d. on the payment of which the convent had no further claim or demand. This estate and church was given (it being part of Broomhill manor) to the convent of Broomhill. In 1428 the temporalities of that house in Otringhithe were valued at 9l. 10s. 3d. and on the dissolution of that priory, when it was granted by the king to cardinal Wolsey,

it is ſtiled the manor of Oteringhithe, with the rectory. On the attainder of the ſaid cardinal it came to Chriſt's college, in Cambridge, and being united to the manor of Broomhill, is leaſed out with it, by that ſociety.

The church hath been in ruins many ages. in it the prior and convent of Caſtle Acre had an intereſt, for William, the ſecond earl Warren, is ſaid to have given, in the reign of Henry I. the church* here to that priory, but yet it was afterwards found to be in the family of de Playz.

There was formerly a conſiderable market at Methwold, kept on Tueſday, but now is almoſt diſuſed, and there is a fair yearly on St. George's day. Its warren is large and famous to a proverb, for rabbets. A late author† obſerves, that in the reign of king Canute, Leoffwine abbot of Ely agreed to find the duke of Lancaſter's family with them two months in every year, but at that time there was no duke thus entitled, nor for many ages after. Great ſuits have been commenced on account of the damage of the rabbets, and in 1606 there was a cauſe depending in chancery, and another in the duchy court of Lancaſter, between ſir William Paſton, ſir Philip Wodehouſe, ſir John Heveningham, ſir Edmund Mundeford, &c. lords of the adjoining towns, and the warrener.

The church of Methwold is dedicated to St. George, and was built in the reign of Edward II. as appears

* Dug. Mon. Ang. v. 1. p. 625. This was moſt likely the church of St. Helen, which, as we learn from Doomſday, was then endowed with a carucate of land.

† Britan. Ant. et Nova. p. 349. Norff.

pears from the pile, and the arms of the earl Warren in the chancel window, before it came it into the Lancaſter family. It is a regular building, with a nave, north and ſouth ailes, and a chancel of flint, pebble-ſtones, &c. covered with lead. The nave is in length, from the ſcreen to the arch of the tower, 54 feet, and in breadth, including the ailes, about 46 feet. The roof of the nave is ſupported by fluted pillars of ſtone, forming four lofty arches on each ſide, and over them as many windows; and on the heads of the principal wood-work of the roof are figures of the religious. At the eaſt end of the nave lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones, deprived of their braſs plates. At the ſouth end of the ſcreen is a ſtone ſtair-caſe, the way to the rood-loft. Over this part of the church, on the gable of the chancel, is an arch of ſtone and brick, where the ſaint's bell formerly hung. This bell, as a worthy author has obſerved, was not ſo called from the ſaint's name that was inſcribed on it, nor from that ſaint to which the church was dedicated, but becauſe it was always rung out when the prieſt came to that part of the ſervice, "*Sanctæ, Sanctæ, Sanctæ, Domine Deus Sabaoth*, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth, or Hoſts," purpoſely that they who would not come to church might underſtand what a ſolemn office the congregation were at that inſtant engaged in, and ſo even in their abſence be once at leaſt moved to lift up their hearts to him that made them. For this reaſon the Sanctæ's bell was generally hung where it might be heard fartheſt. Sometimes in a lanthorn at the top of the ſteeple, or in a turret at one corner of it, if a tower; ſometimes thruſt out of the uppermoſt window, if a ſpire, and ſometimes in an arch, or gallows, on the outſide of the roof, between the church and chancel. The laſt ſort were ſo placed that the rope might come down into the church, and ſo being near the altar, the bell might be more readily

rung

rung out when the prieſt came to the ſacred words. To this we may add another more prevailing reaſon, it being ordained in the church of Rome, that on the conſecration and elevation of the hoſt notice ſhould be given in every church, by the ſound of a bell, that the faithful not preſent might be put in mind of this great myſtery.

There is now ſuch an arch, with a bell in it, between the church and chancel of Diſs, in Norfolk, with the rope hanging down, as you enter the chancel; alſo at Blakeney, &c.

The chancel is ſeparated from the church by a wooden ſcreen, but the pannels of it ſeem to have been tranſpoſed. On them are theſe inſcriptions:

On the left ſide as you enter the chancel,—*Orate pro animabus Rici: Stalworthy, et Thomæ filij ejuſdem qui fieri fec : : : : et animab: Thomæ Croſte et Roberti Keteryngton.*

On the right,—*Orate pro anima Roberti Keteryngton, junioris, et Margar: ux: ejus : : : : : orate pro bono ſtatu juvenum.*

The chancel is about thirty feet in length, and nineteen in breadth, and has an aſcent of three ſteps to the communion table.

On the area before the ſteps lies a large marble grave-ſtone, about ten feet in length, and four in breadth; on this has been the portraiture, or effigy, of a perſon here interred, in compleat armour, with a canopy of braſs work over his head, and four ſhields, one at each corner, alſo two rims, or plates of braſs, running about the whole marble; the effi-

gies

gies (with all the braſſes) was about fifty years ſince (as it is ſaid) reaved by a ſacrilegious wretch, then clerk of the pariſh, and ſold to a tinker, of whom ſome part of the braſſes were recovered, but not before he had broke them into ſmall pieces; ſome of theſe fragments are ſtill preſerved in the church cheſt, but they are only inſignificant pieces of his armour, part of the head of the lion that was couchant at his feet; moſt of them are rim pieces that ornamented the ſtone, and have quater-foils on them. The tradition here is, that this was in memory of one of the earls Warren, lords of the town, from whom they had their privileges, but we cannot come into that opinion: the burial of that noble family is well known and allowed by all antiquaries to have been in the abbey of Lewes, in Suſſex; John, the laſt heir male of that noble family, died in the 21ſt of Edward III. being then 61 years of age, and was buried under a raiſed tomb, near the high altar, in the abbey of Lewes. It is, no doubt, in memory of ſome conſiderable perſon, but from the ſhape, figure, armour, dreſs, and other inſignia, as may in ſome meaſure be gathered from the inciſions in the ſtone, it appears to be in memory of ſome eſquire, or knight, rather than of a lord, or earl.

In a looſe paper of the late worthy antiquary, Mr. le Neve, norroy, the hand writing of Guybon Goddard, (as he ſays) we have this:—"Methwold, in the chancel, a man in compleat arms, a ſurcoat of Warren, or Clifton, (quere) for the place where the bend might be, and the direct place for the bend is broken out, four places for eſcutcheons, three defaced, one left, a feſs between two chev'rons, and a file with three labels."—In an old manuſcript, quoted by Mr. le Neve, are theſe words:

Clifton.

Clifton. } Adam de Clifton, on the graveſtone,
Methwold. } *Obijt* - - - - CCLXVII.

Sir Adam de Clifton was lord of Cranwich, and Hilburgh, &c. in the 20th of Edward III. and held ſeveral fees of the earl Warren: this knight lived the greateſt part of that king's reign, and died on the 28th of January, 1367.

The only difference and way of knowing the arms of Warren from thoſe of Cliſton, (when engraven, and not painted) is by the bend in the arms of Clifton; but this we are told was broken out, moſt likely on purpoſe, to induce perſons to believe it to be the arms of Warren. The other arms then remaining we take to be the arms of Bainard.

On the pavement, about the communion table, lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones, in memory of the family of Swift, of Methwold.

And one inſcribed—*To ſir Hugh Cartwright, of Nottingham, knt. who died in* 1668, *aged* 74.

At the weſt end of the nave is a good four-ſquare tower, embattled and coped with free-ſtone, and ornamented with a pinnacle at each corner; herein is a clock, and a dial plate, againſt the belfry, fronting the nave of the church; the tower is built of flint-ſtone, &c. with quoins of free-ſtone, wherein hang five large muſical bells; on this ſquare tower is raiſed another octangular one, and out of this riſes a neat octangular ſpire, or pyramid of crocket work, on the ſummit of which is a vane; this octangular tower and ſpire is of brick, but caſed with free-ſtone.

William

William the firſt earl Warren in the time of the Conqueror gave this church, amongſt others, to the priory of Caſtle Acre, which he had founded; and by deed without date the prior of Lewes, with the conſent of the whole chapter, gave to the prior and monks of Caſtle Acre the tythe of this church, for the yearly rent of 40s. This we take to be the penſion paid by Caſtle Acre to Lewes, as being then a cell to that houſe.

Thomas Britton, rector of St. George de Melewda*, (as it is ſometimes alſo wrote) exchanged lands with Hamline Plantagenet, earl Warren; this muſt be between the years 1163, and 1202, for then the earl died; by this it plainly appears that the church was not at that time appropriated.

William earl Warren in an epiſtle to Pandulf, biſhop of Norwich, in or about 1203, earneſtly entreats him that he would appropriate to the ſaid priory this church; and to move him to it, he lets him know, that his anceſtors had aſſigned this church to the aforeſaid monaſtery, to find firing for ſtrangers, and all the poor that ſhould come to the monaſtery, of which there is great want in thoſe parts, and indeed it ſeems not to be fully confirmed to them till the year 1249, when Walter de Suffield, biſhop of Norwich, granted this requeſt, dated at Marham, January 6, 1249.

In 1299, Auguſt 2, the biſhop of Norwich ſettled the right and privileges of the rector, and of the vicarages, when the vicar had his preſent houſe aſſigned him.

In

* Dug. Mon. Ang. v. 1. p. 639.

In 1428 the ſpiritualities of the prior, &c. of Caſtle Acre, in this church, were valued at thirty-four marks, and the ſpiritualities of the prior of Lewes at 40s. being the portion, or penſion before-mentioned, due from Caſtle Acre priory. Here is only ſeven roods of glebe land.

At the diſſolution of the priory of Caſtle Acre a fine was levied between the king, and Thomas prior of Caſtle Acre, of this rectory, and the advowſon of the vicarage; but ſoon after, on December 22, in the ſaid year, the king granted them to Thomas duke of Norfolk, together with the penſion belonging to the abbey of Lewes.

In 1603 the vicar obſerved that there were 252 communicants here, and that the lords Thomas and William Howard were patrons, and held the parſonage impropriate.

Thomas earl of Arundel had licence Sept. 1, in the 11th of James I. to alienate this rectory, and the advowſon of the vicarage, to ſir Henry Hobart; and in 1673, December 24, the lady Zouch (relict of James Hobart, eſq.) and Thomas lord Richardſon preſented.

Auguſt 9, 1722, the late Roger North, eſq. of Rougham, preſented as impropriator; and in 1768 the Rev. William Green was preſented to this vicarage by Henry Partridge, eſq. of Northwold, lately recorder of Lynn-Regis.

Slevesholm Priory, commonly called Slusham, was in the pariſh of Methwold, in the marſh, or fens, about a mile and a half weſt of the church of the ſaid town; it was a cell to the priory of Caſtle Acre, founded

founded by William earl Warren and Surrey, and dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, and St. Giles, who by deed gave (in the reign of king Stephen) "a certain *iſland* in the moor, or fen of Melewolde, called Sleveſholm;" the prior was to be a monk of, and to be elected out of the priory of Caſtle Acre, and was to be preſented to, and admitted by the earl Warren, and his heirs, &c. on his doing fealty to him.

In 1428 the temporalities of it were valued at 35s. 7d. ob. per annum.

On the diſſolution it was granted to the Mundefords, of Feltwell; and in 1600 Edmund Mundeford held it. After this we find it poſſeſſed by captain Smith, of Croxton, who conveyed it to Edward Saunders Seabright; ſir Thomas Seabright, bart. died poſſeſſed of it in 1736; and the preſent ſir John Seabright, bart. lieutenant-general of his majeſty's forces, is the preſent lord.

Methwold, vulgarly pronounced Mewell, is a large and populous village. The church is remarkably handſome, with a good ring of bells, and a clock. The ſpire is ſeen every way from ten to twenty miles off, and the poſt road from London to Lynn paſſes by the eaſt end of the town.

Methwold Severals is a diſtrict of the Bedford-level, rented on leaſe by Francis Dixon, eſq. an eminent merchant at Upwell, in Cambridgeſhire, who has made very conſiderable improvements on the lands, eſpecially in the culture of rape-ſeed, which he manufactures into oil, at his mill at Congham, in Freebridge hundred, ſeven miles eaſt of the port of Lynn. This gentleman was high ſheriff of the counties of Cambridge, and Huntingdon, a few years ſince, and is now receiver-general of the land-tax in the former:

mer: his extenſive knowledge in trade, and agriculture, can only be equalled by his conduct as a magiſtrate, and gentleman.

MUNDFORD, Munderord, or Mounderord, wrote Mondefort, and Mundeforda, in Doomſday-book. On the ſouth ſide of the Wiſſey, and on the oppoſite ſhore to Ickburgh, ſtands this village, through which the London road from Swaffham, Fakenham, &c. leads, where there is a brick and ſtone bridge over the river, a little diſtance from the town, for the ſafety of travellers. In the time of the Saxons the river was, no doubt, fordable at this place, and the ford, being defended and ſecured by ſome fence, or fort, it being the very inlet into the Iciani, might derive its name from *Mund*, which ſignifies, in the Saxon tongue, a rampart, or place of defence, the other ford above it being called Lynford, from its miry and watry paſſage*.

This village was given to the monaſtery of Ely in the reign of king Edgar, by Ethelwold biſhop of Wincheſter; at the ſurvey it was valued at 40l. per annum. There were ſeven ſocmen that belonged to this manor, with all their cuſtomary dues, which William earl Warren poſſeſſed; it is one league long, and half a one broad, and pays 11d. gelt.

West-Hall. The manor, or part of the town belonging to the church of Ely, was afterwards called Weſt-Hall, and was held in the reign of Henry II. by Gerald, the king's chamberlain.

In the 24th of Henry III. the prior of Broomhill was wont to receive a rent of mixtling and barley of Henry Fitz-Gerald, out of lands in this town.

In

* Blomfield.

In the 44th of Henry III. Robert de Inſula, or L'Iſle, held a meſſuage and two carucates of land here, with the advowſon of the church of Mundford.

This family of L'Iſle held of the deſcendents of Warine Fitz-Gerald, of whom Henry Fitz-Gerald (as has been obſerved) held it in the reign of king John, whoſe daughter and heir, Alice, married ſir Robert L'Iſle. In the 51ſt year of Henry III. Margaret de Raparijs, counteſs of Devonſhire, daughter and heir of the aforeſaid Warine, brought an action of dower againſt Iſabel de Fortibus, counteſs of Albemarle, for half a knight's fee in this town.

In the 3d of Edward I. ſir Gerard de Inſula, or L'Iſle, was found to hold the moiety of this town of the biſhop of Ely, as part of his barony, and he of the king; he had the aſſize of bread and beer. This Gerard was ſummoned in the 10th of the aforeſaid king, amongſt the barons, to attend the king in his Welch expedition; and in the 15th year he was ſummoned to conſult with Edmund earl of Cornwall, then cuſtos of England, on the king's abſence at Glouceſter, and to be prepared with horſe and arms, for the expedition into Wales.

In 1500 ſir Warine L'Iſle was lord, and preſented to the church, and in the 9th of Edward II. was returned to be lord; he being concerned with earl of Lancaſter in the barons wars againſt the king, was hanged at York, in the 14th year of the ſaid king. This Warine is ſaid to have held it by the ſervice of a ſpar-hawk, and there were then two water-mills in the ſaid town.

In the 5th of Richard II. ſir Robert L'Iſle granted the manor to ſir John Plays, knt. of Weeting, in

exchange for the manor of Fretwell, in Oxfordſhire. This ſir John being the laſt heir male of the family, left it to William Beauchamp, and others, his feoffees, to be alienated to his priory of Broomhill.

In 1401 Richard Payne, &c. ſold the manor (not being able, moſt likely, to obtain a licence of mortmain) to Richard Seyve, who held it by half a fee, in the 3d of Henry IV. and died ſeiſed of it.

In 1518 William Seyve was lord and patron, who died April 8, in the 20th of Henry VIII. and left Chriſtopher, his ſon and heir, a minor; but in 1556 Roger Woodhouſe, eſq. ſeems, by the inſtitution books, to be lord and patron; and ſoon after Richard Killingworth, who preſented in 1561.

In 1634, Feb. 26, Giles Killingworth, eſq. died ſeiſed of it. Soon after this it was purchaſed by ſir Giles Allington, knt. and ſettled on James, his ſon, who dying young, by a fall from his horſe, it came to William lord Allington; and on the death of the laſt Hildebrand lord Allington it deſcended to the late duke of Somerſet, and is now in the heirs of his grace.

East-Hall. William earl Warren, who had many lordſhips of the monaſtery of Ely by exchange at the conqueſt, had ſeven ſocmen in this town, who held lands valued at 10s. per ann. He had alſo what was held by a free-man of Harold's, valued at 10s. per annum.

Theſe parts made up this manor of Eaſt-Hall, of which Oſbert de Mundeford was lord in the 34th of Henry III. and it was held of John de Cokefield, who held it of the earl Warren, and the earl of the king;

king; it is probable it defcended to the Cokefields by the marriage of the daughters and heirs of Fulk de Beaufoe.

By the daughter and heir of the fecond Olbert de Mundeford, who died in 1456, it came to fir William Tindale, knt. but did not continue long in that family, for in the 32d of Henry VIII. Robert Canon was poffeffed of it.

About the year 1630 it was purchafed by fir Giles Allington, and from him it defcended (as is before obferved) to the heirs of the late duke of Somerfet.

Bigot's Manor. Befides the manors before mentioned, Roger Bigot had at the furvey fixty acres of land, &c. valued at 2s. per ann. This was afterwards held by Gerald, the king's chamberlain, and fo defcended to the L'Ifles, &c. This was always held by the lords of Weft-Hall, of the earls and dukes of Norfolk.

In the 6th of Henry VI. Richard Seyve held it of the duchy of Lancafter, lately belonging to Thomas Mowbray, duke of Norfolk; and in the 11th of Henry VI. it was held of John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, of his manor of Forncet, and being thus united to the other manors, it is held by the heirs of the late duke of Somerfet. The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The church is dedicated to St. Leonard; it is a fingle pile of flint, &c. the body is in length about fixty feet, and twenty-fix in breadth, and is covered with tiles; at the weft end ftands a four-fquare tower of the aforefaid materials, embattled with copings, and quoins of free-ftone; herein hang three bells.

The chancel is about thirty feet in length, and seventeen in breadth, and is covered with reed.

At present there are no shields remaining, but formerly there was the shield of sir Robert Knowls, the great warrior, in the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II. also of Tindale, and Mundeford.

In answer to king James's queries, in 1603, the rector observes that there were eighty-six communicants in this parish.

The church is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 7l. 17s. 6d. and being 40l. per ann. in clear value, is discharged of first fruits, &c.

In 1770 the Rev. George Wright was presented to this rectory by the right honourable the earl and countess of Aylesford, *p. j.*

NORTHWOLD, vulgularly pronounced Nor'old, and wrote Northwalde in Doomsday-book, adjoins to Methwold, and lies on the south side of the river Wissey; it is called Wold from its situation in an open country, and North in respect of Methwold, and Hockwold. It was given by Ethelwold bishop of Winchester, in the reign of king Edgar, to the monastery of Ely, being royal demesne, and that prelate is said to have given to the king Hertinge in exchange; it was at that time estimated at twelve hides.

At the general survey we find that the powerful earl Warren had deprived the monastery of part of this town, and that there were then two lordships here, one belonging to the church of Ely, the other to the earl Warren.

Bishop

Bishop of Ely's Manor. That lordſhip which St. Adeldrede (that is the church of Ely, ſo called from St. Audrey, the foundreſs) held at the time of the ſurvey was valued at 9l. the town was one leuca long, half a one broad, and paid 30d. ob. gelt. In the time of Leoffwine, the fifth abbot of Ely, when the tenures and ſervices belonging to the monaſtery were ſettled, this was enjoined to furniſh the houſe with proviſions for two weeks in every year. This part, or manor, was held by the abbots and convent of Ely till the reign of Henry I. when the church being changed into a biſhop's ſee, it was ſettled on the biſhop.

In the 3d of Edward I. the biſhop held this lordſhip, being a moiety of the town, in capite, as parcel of his barony; and in the 7th of the ſaid king there was an extent of it, when the jurors ſaid that the biſhop had liberty of holding all pleas which the ſheriff might, with writ, or without, a gallows, tumbrel, view of frankpledge, aſſize of buſhels, flagons, and other meaſures, and the advowſon of the church; but the prior of Caſtle Acre had two parts of the tithes of the earl Warren's fee, called New-Land, which ſir Thomas de Paveli, and Roger de Wylſham, and their parceners, held in demeſne.

The manor lands were, 488 acres of arable, by the great hundred, and the perch of ſixteen feet, at 4d. per acre, the meadow twenty acres at 6d. per acre, but if any field lay fallow, then the feed of it was common. The heath called Scorteling was common to all the manors of the town, for feeding only; the marſh called South-Fen conſiſted of 1000 acres, in which the whole ſoc of the town might feed, dig, &c. but the ſoc of Methwold could only feed there, as this townſhip did in the common of

Methwold, with their beaſts, horn, and underhorn. There was another marſh called North-Fen, wherein the whole town might dig, feed, common, &c. and a common paſture between the town and Cranwich, in which the townſhip might feed only. The ſeveral fiſheries of Edred's were held by ſir Oſbert de Helgey; Yxeheth, and Ruwere, by John de la How; in Fulheth-Mere, Beche, Littlewere, Hithwere, and Tappys, none but the biſhop was to fiſh.

In an account of Edmund Pierpoint, receiver-general of the revenues of the ſee of Ely, about the reign of queen Mary, the reſerved rent of this manor amounted to 22l. 10s. 11d. ob. it continued in the ſee till queen Elizabeth, in the beginning of her reign, had it ſettled by act of parliament on the Crown, by way of exchange, and it was held of the crown by the payment of 22l. per ann. ſince which time it has gone through ſeveral hands, viz. Pierce, Croſt, &c. and was ſold by ſir Philip Skippon, and ſir Robert Hatton, to Thomas Holder, eſq. in the 35th of Charles II. who by Bridget, daughter of Richard Graves, of Mickleton, in Glouceſterſhire, eſq. bencher and reader of Lincoln's-Inn, had one daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married to Henry Partridge, eſq. late of Buckenham-Houſe, lord of this manor, whoſe ſon, Henry Partridge, eſq. of Lynn-Regis, by his ſecond wife, daughter of Mr. Wright, of London, is the preſent lord.

The before-mentioned fee-farm rent of 22l. per ann. out of this manor, payable to the crown, was granted to ſir John Mordaunt, and on the foundation of his hoſpital, on Blackheath, he ſettled it on that houſe.

DAGENEY'S MANOR. At the general ſurvey we find the earl Warren poſſeſſed of a manor, or moiety, of this town, which in the Confeſſor's time was held by the church of Ely, valued at 60s. but at 5l. per ann. at the ſurvey.

This part the aforeſaid earl beſtowed on his dependents, to be held of him by knight's ſervice, amongſt which was the family of de Pavili, or Pavilleys, who were ancient lords of this manor; and in the reign of Henry I. Ralph de Pavili gave the tithes of all his land in this town to the abbey of Caſtle Acre, founded by the earl Warren. In the 1ſt of king John Ralph de Beauchamp had a grant of the cuſtody of the heir of Reginald de Pavili, with all the land he held in fee, the day he began his journey to Jeruſalem, in which journey he died.

In the 3d of Edward I. Roger Dakeney, or de Akeney, held a fourth part of this town of the earl Warren; from this Roger Dakeney the manor aſſumed its name, and was the ſame part and lordſhip that was held before by the Pavilis.

Sir Thomas Dakeney ſerved Edward I. in his wars againſt the Scots, and is on the roll amongſt other Norfolk knights that lived in that king's reign; and his arms are ſtill to be ſeen in one of the chancel windows of Northwold church.

In the 19th of Edward I. this manor, twenty-one meſſuages, &c. and 4l. rent, were conveyed to the biſhop of Ely for 200 marks, who gave it to the prior and convent of Ely, and by them it was exchanged with Thomas de Chepham, for the manor of Overhall, and Netherhall, at Littlebury, in Eſſex; but in the 14th of Edward III. Richard de Walpole, and

Martin de Mendham, chaplains, held it by half a knight's fee of fir John de Norwich, as belonging to the manor of Sculthorpe, in Gallow hundred.

In the 5th of Richard II. William earl of Suffolk, fon of Margaret, fifter and heir of fir Thomas de Norwich, was the capital lord.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Thomas Monchenfy held the fame of fir Robert Knolls, (the famous warrior) and he of the king, as duke of Lancafter, having purchafed this, and the manor of Havell, in this town, moft probably of John de Weafenham, who was lord of both in the reign of Edward III. From Monchenfy it paffed with that of Havell to the Talboths, and Thomas Talboth died lord Sept. 14, 1474, and lies buried with his wife, in the church of Northwold.

After this the manors of Dagency and Havell paffed into the family of Hobart; and in the 31ft of Henry VIII. Walter Hobart, then a knight, conveyed them by fine to John Ball.

After this they were poffeffed by Mr. Adamfon, who in 1704 fold them to Thomas Holder, efq. whofe widow was lady of the aforefaid manors.

Havell's, or Hovil's Manor. Another part of the earl Warren's fee, or moiety of this town, was given by that earl to the Plays; and in the 12th of Henry III. Hugh de Plays granted to Ralph de Dunton the fourth part of a knight's fee here, to be held of him; but in the 9th of Edward II. William de Havell (from whom this lordfhip had its name) was lord; and in the 24th of Edward III. this manor

was

was conveyed to John de Weaſenham, who in the 35th of the ſaid king died ſeiſed of the ſame.

After this it was held by Thomas Monchenſy, and paſſed from him to Talboth, &c. as is obſerved in the manor of Dageney, to which it was then united.

The ſcite of this manor is now to be ſeen in a paſture-cloſe at the ſouth-eaſt end of the town.

In the town of Northwold is a fair kept yearly on St. Andrew's day, (Nov. 30) to which Saint the church is dedicated.

Hugh de Norwold, biſhop of Ely, in the reign of Henry III. and John de Norwold, abbot of Bury, in 1280, who wrote the annals of this kingdom, and the diſpute between Robert Groſthead, biſhop of Lincoln, and pope Innocent IV. were natives of this place.

The priories of Weſtacre, Shouldham, and Caſtle Acre, had temporalities here.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and has a nave, north and ſouth ailes, with a chancel, all built with flint-ſtone, boulder, &c. covered with lead; at the weſt end of the nave is a very large and lofty four-ſquare tower of the aforeſaid materials, with quoins and battlements of free-ſtone, and eight pinnacles of ſtone carved; in this tower hang five bells; and a clock, with a dial, on the ſouth ſide, fronting the ſtreet. This neat and ſtrong tower was built in the reign of Edward IV. The church is about ſixty-five feet in length, and fifty-five in breadth, including the ailes.

Near

Near the font lies a large marble grave-ſtone, and thereon the portraiture of a man in braſs, but that of his wife is reaved, and on the plate of braſs this:—*Orate pro anima Johannis Perſe, qui obijt* XII° *die menſis Novemb. A°. Dni*: MCCCCCV. *et pro anima Katharine, uxoris ejus, quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen.*

This gentleman gave by will, in 1501, a meſſuage with ſixty-one acres of land to this town, for charitable uſes, which they enjoy at this day.

At the upper end of the nave, in the croſs aile, lies a marble grave-ſtone, once ornamented with a cup of braſs, which has a plate inſcribed—*To John Dawſon, who died Feb.* 28, 1531.

Some few years paſt, juſt as you enter the chancel, lay a grey marble, with a plate thus inſcribed:—*Orate pro animabus Thomæ Talbothe, qui obijt* XIV°. *die Septemb. A°. Dni.* MCCCCLXXIV. *et Johanne uxoris ejus, quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen.*

The grave-ſtone in memory of the ancient lord of Dageney, and Havell, is now removed and loſt, and in its place lies one with an inſcription,—*To Richard Carter, gent. who died July* 10, 1723, *aged* 75 *years.*

At the weſt end of the nave is a large gallery for the ſingers; and here are alſo ſeveral leather buckets, and a fire-engine, dated 1717, the gift of Henry Partridge, eſq. of Buckenham-houſe.

The roof of the nave is of oak, painted, and gilt with gold, it is ornamented with the letter A. and a crown over it, in honour of St. Andrew, and with many ſpread eagles ſab. St. George's arms. The arms

arms of Fordham biſhop of Ely, in the reign of Richard II. In his time it is probable the preſent church was built, and above theſe arms (at ſome diſtance) a mitre may be obſerved.

Here are alſo the arms of Ely, and St. Edmund, or the Eaſt Angles.

The chancel appears, from the workmanſhip, to be more antique than the nave.

On the head of an oaken ſtall in the chancel is this ſhield carved:—az, a ſaltire gul. between a mullet in chief, pierced or, and 3 doves (as they ſeem) arg. The greateſt part of the ſame arms is now remaining in the hall of the rectory houſe, and was ſome years paſt to be ſeen in the parlour windows, and near to it was painted the effigy of ſome rector ſitting alone (as great as Epicurus himſelf) at a table well furniſhed with meat and drink, and this motto, *gaudere et epulari opportet.*

On the pavement, near the north wall, lies a marble ſtone, having Holder impaling Greaves. Thomas Holder died February 24, 1713, aged 74.

In the middle of the pavement is a marble graveſtone, and on it a plate of braſs, on which Scot is impaling three leopards:—*To Thomas Scot, rector, who died November* 12, 1616, *aged* 68.

On the pavement before the communion table is a marble ſtone,—*To Deborah Novell, wife of the Rev. Dr. Novell, who died May* 1, 1661.

Againſt the eaſt end of the north wall of the chancel is a large and lofty pile of clunch, or chalk-

ſtone,

ſtone, the upper part is of curious wrought ſpire-work, with arched canopies, adorned with many niches, and in them little pedeſtals for images. On the body, or lower part, are the effigies of three men in armour, and three trees, a tree between each man, all in a declining falling poſture, which was, before the reformation, called "The ſepulchre of our Lord." The poſture of the men alluding to what the ſcripture obſerves of the guard, or keepers of the ſepulchre: "And for fear of him the keepers did ſhake, and became as dead men, and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent, &c." Theſe ſepulchres were erected always on the north ſide of the chancel, near to the altar.

Great wax lights were generally burning, and great pomp and pageantry uſed here on high feſtivals. On the day of the reſurrection, or Eaſter day, the crucifix and the pix were taken out of this place, where they were depoſited in a ſolemn manner on Good Friday, by the prieſt, on the ſaying *ſurrexit, non eſt hic.*

On the ſouth ſide of the chancel lies the body of Robert Burhill, D. D. rector of this church, and reſidentiary of Hereford, who by his learned works, wrote in latin againſt the champions of the Romiſh church, did great ſervice to the proteſtant cauſe in general, as well as to the church of England in particular. He was moſt intimate with the famous ſir Walter Raleigh, and aſſiſted him in the critical part of his Hiſtory of the world. He was alſo a good antiquary and poet, as well as a great divine, which appears from ſeveral manuſcripts of his, now at Oxford. In this place he took ſanctuary at the breaking out of the troubles in October 1641. To revive the memory of ſo worthy and

and learned a man, Samuel Knight, D. D. prebendary of Ely, erected the table an. Dni. 1727.

In the loweſt window of the chancel, on the ſouth ſide, is Woodhouſe's arms, and in the upper window, on the north ſide, Dakeney. Beſides theſe, there were formerly France and England quarterly, Knowls, Talbot, Curche, and the arms of the priory, and deanry of Ely.

Ralph de Pavili, who held part of this town of William earl Warren, gave in the reign of Henry I. the tithes of his land here to the priory of Caſtle Acre, tithe being in that age in the gift of any lord, or owner, ſo that it was aſſigned, or given to any church, or religious houſe, and Walcheline de Roſei, who held alſo lands here of the aforeſaid earl, gave the tithes of his land to the aforeſaid priory. On the diſſolution of that priory it came to the crown, and paſſed from thence to the duke of Norfolk, ſince as a lay-fee through ſeveral hands, and the Rev. Mr. Pile, of Lynn, is the preſent owner.

About 1290 the rector had a houſe, and a carucate of land, valued at 41 marks, and paid 3s. Peterpence.

Thomas Wrenn, M. D. and S. T. B. preſented rector, June 15, 1651, was ſon to the biſhop of Ely, educated in Cambridge, and created doctor of phyſic, Oxford, Auguſt 2, 1653, by the chancellor's letters.

William Holder, rector here in 1662, was fellow of Pembroke-hall, in Cambridge, canon of Ely and St. Paul's, ſub-deacon of the king's chapel, ſub-almoner, &c.

On

On May 9, 1691, the king preſented Thomas Armſtrong to this rectory. The biſhop of Ely is now patron.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 29l. 15s. 9d. ob. and pays firſt fruits 26l. 16s. 3q. Tenths 59s. 5d. 3q.

In 1277 Andrew de Ripa held a water-mill here, and its appurtenances, paying 30s. yearly for all ſervices, which were aſſigned towards the maintenance of a chaplain in the church of Northwold *for ever*, by the charter or deed of Hugh biſhop of Ely, and this chaplain was found by the rector, and called the chantry chaplain.

In this church there were the guilds of the Holy Trinity, and of St. John the Baptiſt.

Richard Powle, vicar of Fouldon, in 1479 gave about 40 acres of land, &c. in this town to the townſhip, to repair the church, &c. which they at this day enjoy.

The village of Northwold lies on the road from Thetford to Lynn, and has in it the ſeat of Henry Partridge, eſq. an eminent counſellor at law, and late recorder of Lynn-Regis.

In 1774 the Rev. James Bentham was inſtituted to the rectory, by the right reverend the lord biſhop of Ely.

Wittington is a hamlet about three miles north-weſt of the town, and near Stoke-ferry, belonging to this townſhip. In the 15th of James I. Charles Croſt, eſq. was found to have died poſſeſſed of a free tenement,

tenement, and lands here, called Hulliars, held of the manor of Northwold, in free ſoccage, and the rent of 9s. 11d. per ann. The roads from Thetford and Brandon unite here, and paſs from hence over Stoke-bridge, towards Lynn, Downham, &c.

SANTON, or SAND-TOWN. This is now a depopulated village, and has only a manor, or farm-houſe. It lies weſtward of Croxton, near the little Ouſe, that divides this county from Suffolk. In ancient writings it is wrote Santon, and Stanton, and ſo may take its name, either from its ſandy ſituation, or from the number of flinty ſtones that are in the ſands. At the ſurvey it was the lordſhip of William earl Warren, and there were three carucates, valued at 10s. per ann.

In the reign of Henry III. Peter de Barew held this lordſhip of the earl Warren, and he in capite, as parcel of his barony.

In the 9th of Edward II. Nicholas de Stanton was returned as lord of this place, but the toll of the ferry here belonged to the lord of Thetford, as was found on the death of Ralph de Cobham, lord of Thetford. The aforeſaid Nicholas conveyed the manor to Roger de Bodney, and on St. Matthew's day, in the 8th of Richard II. John de Bodney, by his deed then dated at Santon, gave to truſtees his manor in Santon, with the rents, ſervices, &c. and all his lands and tenements in Wilton, Hockwold, and Didlington, who held it as truſtees, 'till could be ſettled on the prior and convent of St. Mary of Thetford; and in the 7th of Henry VII. Nov. 19, John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, being one of the truſtees, obtained licence of mortmain, on the prior and convent's payment of 25l. to the king; and ſir John Howard, lord

of

of the fee, confirmed the fame on the 17th of December, in the aforefaid year. On the diffolution of the priory at Thetford, it was given, with the fcite of that houfe, to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and being forfeited on the attainder of the faid duke, Edward VI. by his letters patent, dated May 6th, in the 5th year of his reign, gave it to John Cheeke, efq. (his fchool-maſter) to be held of him in capite, paying 28s. 4d. per ann. but it came again to the crown, by a fine paſſed in the third and fourth of Philip and Mary, between the faid king and queen and ſir John Cheeke; and in the following year it was enjoyed by Thomas duke of Norfolk, and was alienated by the earl of Arundel and Surrey, to Thomas Bancroft, gent. on the 21ſt of June, in the 21ſt of James I. to be held, by him, of the king in capite, by the 40th part of a knight's fee. The faid Thomas left, by Margaret his wife, three daughters; Helen, the eldeſt, married Robert Sadler, gent. who had a daughter married to Thomas Saunders, efq. of Beachwood, in Herefordſhire, who purchaſing the other ſhares, left it to his daughter and heireſs, the wife of ſir Edward Seabright, bart. From this laſt family it came to ——Copinger, efq. and from him to Roger Petiward, efq. the preſent lord.

The prior and convent of Caſtle Acre, had a portion of tithes here, valued at 4s. 5d. per ann.

The preſent fabric is very ſmall, rebuilt out of the ruins of the old one, (which was dedicated to Allſaints) about a century paſt, of flint, and ſome brick, being in length about 10 feet, and in breadth about 15. The roof is camerated, plaſtered, and covered with tiles. At the ſouth-weſt corner is a little place raiſed above the roof, in which hangs one bell. Near the eaſt end, on the pavement, lies a marble ſtone

thus

tlatis inſcribed:—*Thomas Bancroſte, armiger, ex præcipuis in archivis, ejus qui præfecto ærarij regij a memoria eſt librarijs. Cujus impenſis unicis atque ultroneis, eccleſia hæc funditus antiquitus demolita, proprijſque ruderibus ſopita longum ſepultaque, tandem rediviva reſurrexit, cui Margareta conjux prærchariſſima, (præter pleroſque liberos jam diu in cineres redactos) tres peperit filias, nimirum, Helenam, Roberto Sadlier in agro Hertfordienſi apud Sopwell, divi albani pago vicinum, armigero, connubio junctam. Elizabetham, Johanni Scroggs de Patmer-hall in eodem comitatu, armigero, nuptam. Nubilemque Margaretam virginem, ſummum ſui eximios dotes deſiderium relinquens. Dierum Satur et Canitie bona, indubia ſuſcitandi, noviſſima tuba, ſpe, hic placide in Domino obdormit. Mortalitate exutus, paraſceve* 15 *Aprilis*, 1636.

There was a rectory-houſe, but no land, in the time of Edward III.

Thomas Heigham, ſen. gent. in 1494, granted the advowſon to the mayor and commonalty of Thetford, who are the preſent patrons.

The church of Santon, which for many years had lain in ruins, was re-built at the charge of Thomas Bancroft, gent. and conſecrated on the 6th of January, 1628.

On March 8, 1635, Richard Kendal was preſented rector. He was turned out by the earl of Manchester, Auguſt 10, 1664, for obſerving the orders of the church, refuſing to contribute to the rebellion, ſwearing, haunting inns, being diſtempered with liquor, keeping malignant company, and for ſaying in a ſermon, ſix or ſeven years before, that the puritans were hypocrites. He was alſo plundered for the parliament taxes, and, if I miſtake not, (ſays Walker) had

ſome temporal eſtate alſo put under ſequeſtration, and ejected from this, and Santon Downham ſtipend*.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 1l. 13s. 10d. Tenths 3s. 7d. of which it is now diſcharged, the clear yearly value being ſworn at 35l.

In the 5th year of king John, Peter de Clay had a ſuit with Thomas de Ingaldeſthorpe, about the right of preſentation to this church; and in the ſaid year a fine was levied between Peter de Clay, and Adam de Hackbech, of the advowſon, wherein Adam had the right conveyed to him. In the 17th of Edward II. a fine was levied between Robert, his ſon, querent, and Henricus de Staunton, or Santon, one of the itinerant juſtices, defendant, of meſſuages in Santon, and the advowſon of the church, granted to Hervey for life, remainder to Robert.

In the 11th of Henry VI. ſir John Shardelow, knt. died without iſſue, ſeiſed of this advowſon, and Thomas Brews, of Sall, eſq. was found his couſin, and heir.

In 1764 the Rev. John Cole Gallaway was preſented to the rectory of Santon, *alias* Santon-houſe, by the corporation of the borough of Thetford. Duty done here only once a month.

Oppoſite to Santon is the town, and ſeat of Downham, in Suffolk, belonging to lord Cadogan, called Santon-Downham, to diſtinguiſh it from Downham, in Norfolk.

Above

* Walker's ſufferings of the clergy, p. 2d. p. 228.

Above Santon-Downham, on the heights, are a lodge, and fome trees, feen at a great diftance, and appears "as a nofegay in the breaft of this country."

STANFORD, wrote in Domfday-book ESTANFORDA, takes its name from the Stony-ford over the river that runs through the town: at the furvey we find it in the hands of many of the Conqueror's followers, but the moft confiderable part was held by Roger, fon of Rainard, and was that part, or lordfhip, which Alftan, a Saxon, held in the reign of the Confeffor; the whole was valued at 60s. per annum. In the fame village alfo Roger held land, &c. valued at 20s. per annum, which he claimed by the gift of the king; the whole was one league long, and half a one broad; it paid 15d. gelt when the hundred was taxed at 20s. of the free-men the king and the earl of Norfolk had the foc.

MORTIMER's MANOR. The lordfhip held by Roger came foon after into the hands of the earl Warren, who had large poffeffions in this hundred, and was held of him by the ancient family of Mortimer, of Attleburgh; fir Robert de Mortimer was lord in the reign of Henry II. and fir William had in the 11th of Edward I. the grant of a weekly market here on Tuefday, and a fair for three days, viz. on the eve, the day, and morrow of Whit-Sunday yearly. John de Thorpe held it in the 9th of Edward II. under the Mortimers.

On the diviſion of the eſtate of the Mortimers, this townſhip came to Cecily, daughter and coheireſs of ſir Thomas Mortimer, then the wife of ſir John Herling; and on her deceaſe it deſcended to her ſon, ſir John Herling, who left one daughter and heir, Ann, the wife of ſir William Chamberlain,

knight of the garter, who enjoyed it. This Ann had to her ſecond huſband, ſir Robert Wingfield, comptroller of the houſhold to Edward IV. who died ſeiſed of it in right of his wife. In this family it remained till ſir Anthony Wingfield, knight of the garter, in the time of Edward VI. conveyed it to Nicholas Bacon, eſq. (afterwards lord keeper) with other lands, in Weſt-Tofts, Buckenham Parva, and Sturſton. After this it was enjoyed by Edward Coke, eſq. who was lord here in the 40th of Elizabeth; then by John Barker, eſq. of the Ipſwich family, and from thence it came to the Pentneys.

Langetot's Manor. Beſides this capital manor of the Mortimers, of the fee of Roger, ſon of Rainard, there was alſo another lordſhip belonging to the ſame fee, held of the Mortimers. In the time of Henry III. John Langetot held here, and in Buckenham Parva, half a quarter of a fee of ſir Robert Mortimer, and he of the earl Warren. By Margaret, daughter and heir of Richard Gegge, it came by marriage to John Auſteyn, eſq. who conveyed it in the 21ſt of Edward IV. to ſir Robert Wingfield, lord of the manor of Mortimer, with which it continues united at this time.

Mundford's Fee was the next conſiderable lordſhip in this town, and was at the ſurvey enjoyed by Hugh de Montfort, held by a free-man, valued at 20s. per ann. but the lord before Hugh had only his protection, and the king had the ſoc.

Stanford's Manor. This fee was divided into two moieties, one of which was enjoyed by Nigell de Stanford, and William de Buckenham, in the reign of Richard I. In 1300 Hubert Hacon was lord; and in the 3d of Edward IV. Richard Gegge, and

and Edmund Hall, of Buckenham Parva, held it of John Rands, alias Reymes, lord of Bodney, and he of the king; and by the marriage of Margaret, daughter and heir of Gegge, it came to John Auſtevn, eſq. who conveyed it to ſir Robert Wingfield, and from that family it came to ſir Nicholas Bacon, and ſo to ſir Edward Coke. In the reign of Charles I. it was ſold to Thomas Garrard, eſq. and his deſcendent, ſir Nicholas Garrard, bart. of Langford, died ſeiſed of it in 1727; it was lately ſold to ſir William de Grey, knt. lord chief juſtice of the court of common pleas.

Ufford's, or Camsey Manor. The other moiety of Monfort's fee was held in the beginning of the reign of Henry III. by Richard de Burſeld, by the ſixth part of a fee, of the honor of Hagenet. In the 20th of Edward III. ſir Edmund de Ufford, &c. held half a quarter of a fee of Adam de Cliſton; but in the 3d of Henry IV. it was in the monaſtery of Campſey, in Suffolk, given to that houſe by Robert de Ufford, earl of Suffolk. On the diſſolution of the priory of Campſey it came to the crown, and was given by Henry VIII. together with the manor of Tottington, in the 31ſt year of his reign, Dec. 9, to ſir Robert Southwell; and on May 16, in the 40th of Elizabeth, was purchaſed by ſir Edward Coke, of ſir Robert Southwell; and in the reign of Charles I. was ſold to Thomas Garrard, eſq. ſir Nicholas Garrard, bart. died ſeiſed of it in 1727, it being joined to Stanford's manor, and ſo all Mundford's fee was re-united; ſir William de Grey is the preſent lord, by purchaſe, as above.

Roger Bigot had alſo at the ſurvey ſixty acres of land, &c. held by a free-man in the time of the

Confeſſor, and Stanard held it of Roger, valued at 2s. 8d. per ann.

This was afterwards held by Walter Gezun, in the 11th of Edward II. and in the 3d of Henry IV. by William Gezun. After this we meet with no other account of it, it being united to ſome of the other lordſhips.

William biſhop of Thetford had lands belonging to his fee, valued at 6s. 6d. per ann. This was land belonging to his lordſhip and town of Toſts, which extended into this place.

Rainald, ſon of Ivo, had alſo at the ſurvey fourteen acres of land, valued at 2s. 8d. per ann. which came afterwards to the earls of Glouceſter, and Clare; this part was annexed very early to ſome of the other lordſhips, no account of it being found on any records that we have met with. The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The road from Bury, and Thetford, to Swaffham, and Walſingham, lies through this village: a modern author* aſſerts, that travellers find here one good inn, but this may be found by ſad experience to be a miſtake.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is built of brick, &c. it has been a regular and neat pile, conſiſting of a nave, north and ſouth ailes, and a chancel, but is now in a very ſordid and ruinous condition, both church and chancel being for the moſt part unpaved, the timber of the roof greatly decayed, ſeveral good windows, or lights, worked up

* Mag. Brit. Ant. & Nova, in Norff. p. 350.

up, and by no means kept as becomes a place dedicated to the ſervice of God.

The nave is in length about thirty-four feet, and in breadth, including both the ailes, fifty; it is covered with lead, as both the ailes formerly were, of which they were ſtripped ſome years paſt by the church-wardens, &c. at preſent the ſouth aile is covered with tile, and the north with reed. Theſe ailes ſeem to have been additions to the body of the church, erected by ſome pious perſons as chapels, or chantries. The chancel is in length about thirty feet, and twenty in breadth; both on the ſouth and north ſide of it there have been chapels annexed, or other buildings, as appears from the ruinous heaps of ſtones which ſtill remain.

At the weſt end of the nave ſtands a tower of flint, round as high as the roof of the nave, and from thence octangular, in which hang three bells, one of which is broke.

Here were anciently in this church the arms of the earls of Clare; Beauchamp; earl of Warwick; Mortimer, of Attleburgh; of England; and of Fitz-John.

In the 14th of Edward I. ſir William de Mortimer ſued the prior of Shouldham for the preſentation of this church, and having recovered it, granted it to the prior and convent of Shouldham; and on the 21ſt of April, 1301, it was appropriated, and the endowment of a vicarage was left to the biſhop of Norwich, and his ſucceſſor, to take place on the death of the preſent rector. But before this it appears that the prior and convent of Caſtle Acre had two parts of the tithes of the demeſnes of ſir Robert de

Mortimer confirmed to them by Simon biſhop of Norwich; and we find in 1428 the prior charged for them at 15s.

The vicars were nominated by the biſhop of Norwich to the prior of Shouldham, who preſented.

In the reign of Henry VI. the monaſtery of Shouldham was taxed for their ſpiritualities at thirteen marks, 4s. 5d. the tenths were 17s. 9d. ob. and the vicar was taxed at ſix marks, 8s. 11d. the tenths 8s. 10d.

In the rector's reply to king James's queries, in 1603, he obſerves that there were ſeventy-ſix communicants.

On the diſſolution of Shouldham monaſtery the patronage of this vicarage, together with the appropriated rectory, came to the crown, and there continued till queen Elizabeth, in the 4th year of her reign, procured an act of parliament to empower her to grant and convey the impropriate tithes, offerings, glebe lands, &c. of rectories lodged in the crown to ſeveral epiſcopal ſees, and for her to take into the right of the crown, on the vacancy of any ſee, any part of the honors, caſtles, manors, lands, &c. of the ſaid ſees, as ſhould amount to the yearly value of ſuch rectories impropriate, to be ſettled on them for ever, by way of an exchange, like that of Glaucus and Diomedes. Thus this impropriate rectory, with many others, came to the ſee of Ely, many noble lordſhips being taken from that ſee by this plea, after the death of doctor Cox, biſhop there in 1581. Yet the good queen, ſays Dr. Kennet in the Hiſtory of Impropriations, p. 156. did herein conſult and advance the honor of her royal perſon and government,

by

by thinking the old lay-fees were better for the crown, and the eccleſiaſtical revenues for the church; but how the queen conſulted this will be difficult to determine, when even the aforeſaid author acquaints us, that upon the third reading of the bill in the Houſe of Lords, all the ſpiritual lords then preſent did expreſsly diſſent from it. By this means (ſays the learned Ridley, in his View of the Civil Eccleſiaſtical Law, p. 305,) the biſhops were brought into obloquy, as though they detained the due proviſion of the parochial church from it, and are ſet in a ready way to be overthrown, if every bird have his own feathers again.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 5l. 13s. 1d. ob. and is diſcharged, being returned of the clear yearly value of 18l. per ann.

In 1751 the Rev. Robert Rolfe was preſented to this vicarage by the biſhop of Ely.

STURSTON lies in the north-eaſt angle of this hundred, and may derive its name from the rivulet that runs on the north ſide of it, formerly (it is not unlikely) called the Stour, though at preſent its name is not known. Stour, or Stert, is a name frequently to be met with, moſt of the counties in England having rivers, brooks, &c. thus denominated.

At the ſurvey it was the lordſhip of Ralph lord Bainard, a powerful baron, who came into England with the Conqueror; and Luvellus (probably anceſtor of the family of Lovel, in Norfolk) held of him ſix carucates of land, &c. valued at 60s. alſo two carucates, &c. of land, which ſixteen freemen held, valued at 20s. The whole was a league long, half a one broad, and paid 20d. gelt.

The

The lordſhip was afterwards forfeited by William lord Bainard, on account of his rebellion in the reign of Henry I. and was given by that king to Robert, grandſon of Gilbert earl of Clare, whoſe poſterity aſſumed the name of Fitz-Walter, lord Bainard. It was held of them as of the honor of Caſtle-Bainard, in London, by the rent of 4od. per ann. caſtle-guard money. In the 22d of Edward III. it was conveyed by fine from John Clare to ſir John Harling; and was held in the 3d of Henry IV. by ſir Simon Felbrigg, knt. of the earl of Rutland, in the right of his wife, widow of the lord Fitz-Walter; but Robert Dey, gent. of Sturſton, died in 1516 poſſeſſed of the manor of Sturſton, and left only two daughters and co-heirs, Jane, and Elizabeth, between whom it was divided.

After this it came to the Family of Jermyn, of Ruſhbrook, in Suffolk; and Edmund Jermyn, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Thomas Jermyn, died in the 15th of Elizabeth, without iſſue, ſeiſed of it, and held it of Thomas earl of Suſſex.

In the reign of James I. it was ſold to Henry Bedingfield, eſq. fifth ſon of ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, who died lord, and was buried here about 1629, in which family it continued till it was ſold by John Bedingfield, eſq. of Beeſton, about the year 1790, to Mr. Bullock, couſin, and one of the heirs of ſir Thomas Colby, bart. who, on a diviſion of the aforeſaid ſir Thomas's eſtate, is ſaid to have had about 30,000l. for his ſhare, or part.

Beſides the manor before mentioned, Roger Bigot at the ſurvey held ſixty acres of land; but this part was alſo ſoon after annexed to the lordſhip aforeſaid, as was that part which belonged to Ralph de Tony.

The

The manor-houſe only now remains, the reſt of the village being demoliſhed.

The church is dedicated to the Holy Croſs, and ſtands a little ſouth of the houſe; it is a ſmall pile, built of flint, &c. about twenty-ſix feet in length, and fourteen in breadth, covered with tiles; at the eaſt end was formerly a chancel, as appears from the foundation-ſtones; and at the weſt end is a low ſquare tower of flint, in a ruinous condition, and open from the top to the bottom.

On the pavement lies a grave-ſtone inſcribed—*To Ann the wife of John Beding field, gent. formerly a citizen of London, now a grocer in Lynn-Regis, who died Dec.* 14, 1677, *aged* 38 *years.*

Againſt the north wall is a plain ſtone monument, with this inſcription:—*Henricus Beding field quintus filius Domini Henrici Beding field, militis aurati, defuncti, et Mariæ uxor Henrici, filiæ Chriſtiani Catholici, hic dormiunt in Domino, ſpe firmâ expectantes carnis reſurrectionem et vitam æternam per Jeſum Chriſtum Dominum noſtrum. An° Dom.* 1629.

This church was well endowed, which occaſioned its early appropriation to the priory of Dunmow, in Eſſex, founded by the lords Baynard; for in the beginning of the reign of Edward I. it was in that houſe, and the prior and convent had a manſion-houſe, or rectory, endowed with a carucate of land; procurations then were 5s. Synodals, 2s. In 1428 the prior was taxed for his ſpiritualities here at ſix marks, and for his temporalities at 16s. 6d.

At the diſſolution it was granted to the earl of Suſſex, and held of him (as the lordſhip was) by the Jermyns,

Jermyns, and so came to the Bedingfields, and from them to the Bullocks.

Mr. Blomfield says, "the curate who officiates is allowed 6l. per ann. only."

In 1753 the Rev. Colby Bullock was licensed to this rectory, or curacy, on the presentation of the right honourable the earl of Essex.

WEST-TOFTS joins to the west side of Stanford: *toft* signifies a house, or cottage, and to express the poverty of any person this proverb was used, that he had not *toft*, or *grofts*, that is, house, or land, the adjunct, *west*, is to distinguish it from other villages of the same name, as Buckenham-Tofts, &c. In Doomsday-book it is wrote Stoffia, and was at that time the lordship of William bishop of Thetford; bishop Ailmar held it in the Confessor's time, valued at 40s. at the survey at 60s. and was held of the bishop by Richard and Elias. The whole town was one league long, and half a one broad, and paid 17d. to the gelt.

Caston-Hall Manor. At the survey there were only two lordships, one held by Richard, the other by Elias, of the fee then of Thetford, but soon after removed to Norwich. In the reign of Richard I. Adam de Breideston held a moiety, and after him the Katesluns, or Castons, which family had a lordship here before the 3d of Henry III. In the Castons it remained till sir John de Caston had two daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth, married to Robert Carbonel, and Alice, to William Fastolf. In 1393 sir John Fastolf presented as lord to this church; but in the 3d of Henry IV. sir John Carbonel was lord, and held it half a fee of the bishop of Norwich.

In

In 1433 John Berney, esq. of Reedham, died seised of this manor of Caston-Hall; in the family of the Berneys it continued till the reign of Charles I. when it was conveyed to the Jermyns, lords of the other part of the town. In 1682 Henry Jermyn, earl of St. Alban's, was lord; soon after this it was sold to Mr. Vincent, of Little-Buckenham; from him it passed to Robert Partridge, esq. and on his death it descended to his brother, Henry Partridge, esq. whose son, Henry Partridge, esq. of Northwold, was lord. George Nelson, esq. son of George Nelson, esq. of London, lord-mayor in 1766, is the present lord and patron, and has built one of the handsomest seats of its size in Norfolk, ornamented with extensive and beautiful plantations.

Tofts Manor. This lordship was held in the reign of Richard I. by Adam de Breideston, and after by the family of the Castons; but in the reign of Edward I. it was divided into two manors, one of which was held by sir Robert de Caston. In the 28th of Edward I. John de Toft held twelve messuages, three hundred acres of land, &c. but in the 3d of Henry IV. Richard Gegge held it; in this family it continued, till by the marriage of Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Richard Gegge, esq. it came to John Austleyn, esq. about the reign of Edward IV. It was afterwards conveyed to Thomas Jermyn, and being thus united to his other manor, it continued in that family till it was sold to Mr. Vincent, as is before observed.

Bigot's, or Dorward's Manor. This manor contained a moiety of the town, and was probably that part which was held by Elias, of the bishop of Thetford, at the survey, and after by Jeffrey de Melton, father of Peter le Constable, and his son, Reginald,

ginald, dying without iſſue, it fell to his three ſiſters and co-heirs; Alice, married to Cokefield; Habel, to Birſton; and Edith, firſt married to ſir Stephen de Aſtley, and after to Holewell; but John de Cokefield, ſon of the eldeſt ſiſter, Alice, ſeems to have, on a diviſion of the eſtate, this manor aſſigned to him. In the 3d of Edward I. ſir William Belet, or Bigot, held it; he was valet to Henry III.

In the 5th of Henry VI. three daughters were found to be ſiſters and co-heirs to their brother, William Bigot, who died without iſſue; Catherine, the eldeſt, married Robert Hunt, whoſe daughter, Iſabel, married Thomas Dayrell, who died ſeiſed of this manor in 1490; and Thomas Jermyn, eſq. on his marriage with Anaſtaſia Dayrel, became lord of this part. In 1684 we find it in the ſame family, when Henry Jermyn, earl of St. Alban's, preſented to the church; but ſoon after this it was ſold to Mr. Vincent, of Buckenham Parva, and by him to Robert Partridge, eſq. and ſo to George Nelſon, eſq.

How the other two parts of the manor that came to Galvon, and Fox, by the marriage of the co-heirs of Bigot, deſcended, we cannot ſay; but John Oliver, of Weſt Tofts, died November 23, 1557, ſeiſed of it; and in 1572 Edmund Wright, eſq. held it; ſoon after this it came to the Jermyns, and ſo was united to the other parts.

The prior of Thetford had lands here given him with the manor of Santon, by Thomas Bodney; and on the 7th of Auguſt, in the 27th of Elizabeth, the queen, on the humble petition of Henry lord Wentworth, grants to Theophilus Adams, and Thomas Butler, of London, gents. all the lands here belonging to the late priory of Thetford, which were one hundred

hundred acres of land, meadow, and paſture. In the 41ſt of Elizabeth they were poſſeſſed by Edmund Jermyn.

The abbot of Conches was taxed in 1423 for his temporalities here, viz. a mill, &c. at 6s. and the prior of Canterbury, for his ſpiritualities, at 4s. 6d.

On Monday the 2d of January, 1720, an oaken coffin was found in a moiſt, ſpringy place, in this town, by ſome workmen belonging to Mr. Partridge, who were making a ditch to drain the ground; near the place where it was found is a piece of ground (a little eaſt of the church) moated about, where formerly was the ſeat, or hall, of the Caſſons, and perhaps here might have been ſome neighbouring chapel; it lay S. E. and N. W. and was full of water; in it were the bones of the perſon interred, and a repreſentation of a face, cut either in jet, or Lancaſhire coal, with an hole through the upper part of it, and alſo a blue cypher, which ſeemed to have been ſet in a ring, and ſeveral blue irregular beads, with a broken golden verrel, which the workmen had flipped off a ſmall piece of wood like a knitting-ſheath; it was broken and bent out-right by them; it probably belonged to ſome ſmall crucifix: they were in the hands of the late Mr. Thomas Martin.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a very ancient building of flint-ſtone, &c. the nave is in length about fifty-four feet, and in breadth, together with the north aile, twenty-ſeven feet, and is covered with reed.

On the pavement, near the reading deſk, lies a marble grave-ſtone, with the arms of Partridge:—*In a vault under this ſtone lyeth the body of Robert Partridge,*

tridge, esq. of Buckenham-House, eldest son of Mr Henry Partridge, of Lowbrook, in the parish of Bray, in Berkshire; he departed this life Dec. 26. 1710.

Proh Dolor! jam virtus sola superstes.

In the wall on the south side is the place for the holy water, where formerly was an altar. The north aile is tiled, and not so antique as the nave; it has an ascent at the east end, where was another altar. At the west end of the nave stands a large square tower of flint, coped and embattled with quoins of free-stone, in which hang four bells; the great bell is thus inscribed:—*Virgo coronata, duc nos ad regna beata.*—This tower* was begun about the end of the reign of Henry VI. or in the beginning of Edward IV. Round the water-table is an account of the benefactors cut in stone, in old characters.

The chancel is of equal height with the nave, and has no arch to separate it, which shews the antiquity of the whole pile; it is covered with thatch, and is in length about thirty-three feet, and eighteen in breadth; there has been a vestry, as appears from the door (which led into it) on the north side. Here lies a marble grave-stone, with a shield of Barwick, and a latin inscription, to Benjamin Barwick, rector 40 years, he died in 1669.

Adjoining lies another marble grave-stone, with the arms of Jermyn:—*Hereunder lyeth the bodies of John Jermyn, late of West-Tofts, esq. and also of Thomas Jermyn,*

* Though it is certain the foundation was laid, and the tower built as high as the water-table, in the reigns above-mentioned, yet it seems not to have been compleated till a long time after; for in 1518 William Oliver left to the edifying of the steeple 6s. 8d.

Jermyn, esq. his brother, a pentioner of the bodies of the late king James, and also of king Charles, both of blessed memorie."

Another marble stone is inscribed—*To John Henman, late curate of this parish, and rector of Great Cressingham, son of Mr. William Henman, of Charing, in Kent, who died March* 26, 1730, *aged* 35.—— "*Pius filius, fidus amicus, vir eximiæ eruditionis, ecclesiæ decus.*"

In the upper window of the chancel, on the south side, is Caston's shield; and there were anciently the arms of Wright, Spring, Heigham, Francis, Berney, and Reedham.

In 1603 the rector said that there were 80 communicants in this parish.

In 1773 the Rev. George Wright was presented to this rectory by George Nelson, esq. lord and patron.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 8l. 6s. 1d. ob. and by the late act of queen Anne is discharged of first fruits and tenths, being valued at 49l. per ann. real value.

Andrew Hook, or Hewke, willed in 1484 to be buried in this church, before the image of the Holy Trinity, and gave to the building of the steeple 30l. John Olyver, by his will in 1482, gave to the steeple 4 marks; both their names are on the steeple.

WEETING, or WETING, lies west of Santon, in the south part of the hundred, where it is divided from Suffolk by the little Ouse. Part of it was given to the monastery of Ely, in the time of king Edgar, by Ethelwold bishop of Winchester; but at the general

ſurvey, by the Conqueror, this part was then the lordſhip of William earl Warren. Another part belonged to the Conqueror's own manor of Methwold, then in the cuſtody of William de Noiers, which in the Confeſſor's time belonged to Stigand archbiſhop of Canterbury. The whole is there ſaid to be one league and an half in breadth, and paid 14d. gelt, and is wrote Wetinge, that is *Wet-Inge*, a watry meadow, as lying in a bottom, and having a large tract of low ground adjoining to the Ouſe, often ſurcharged with water.—*Blomfield*, folio 477.

Soon after the ſurvey, that part alſo, which was held by the king, came into the hands of the earl Warren, and the whole town was held of thoſe lords by the ancient and noble family of de Plays, of which family was Hugh de Plays, who lived in the reign of king Stephen, and ſir Ralph de Plays, between whom and the burgeſſes of Thetford there was a ſuit about common-paſture in Croxton.

This family continued lords, and Giles de Plays being knighted, was in the 22d of Edward I. ſummoned as a baron to attend the king on the firſt of September at Portſmouth, in order to ſail into Gaſcoigne to recover his inheritance, and the ſaid ſir Giles died in 1303.

Richard, ſon of ſir Giles, held two parts of this manor, the other part being in the prior of Broomhill, with a fiſhery here. In the 25th of Edward III. Richard his ſon was lord, and died beyond ſea in the 34th of the ſaid king, leaving Mary his widow, the daughter of ſir Walter de Norwich, and John his ſon, of the age of 18 years. In the 40th of Edward III. the ſaid John was a knight. In the 5th of Richard II. he lent the king 20l. towards his wars, and in the 9th of

of that king attended John duke of Lancaſter in his expedition into Spain, and died in the 13th year of the ſame king. The ſaid ſir John was the laſt heir male of this family, leaving only one daughter, Margaret, married to ſir John Howard, anceſtor to the duke of Norfolk. His will is dated on Thurſday before the feaſt of St John Baptiſt, 1385, at Ocle-magna, in Eſſex, and was proved on the 16th of July, 1389. " He bequeaths his body to be buried in the " priory of Broomhill, to which houſe he gives his " whole ſuit of veſtments, a cup and thurible of ſil- " ver, two phials, an incenſe-boat, and an oſculatory " of ſilver gilt; to the prior and convent of Walſing- " ham his red veſtment, and ten marks of ſilver; to " the prior and convent of Broomholm his black " veſtment, and ten marks of ſilver; to the abbeſs and " convent of Marham, to the prioreſs and convent of " Wykes, to the prioreſs and convent of Heninghain, " to the prioreſs and convent of Thetford, and to the " prior and convent of Ingham, 25l. viz. to each houſe " 100s. ſterling; to the repair of every church in his " patronage 40s. to the church of St. Mary at Felt- " well, that of Toftree, Chelefwoth, and Stanſted- " Montfychet, 4l. viz. to each 20s. To ſir William, " parſon of the church of Knapton, 20l. in ſilver. To " ſir John Lincoln, clerk, Simon Barret, ſir John, vi- " car of Wyndefore, ſir William, parſon of the " church of St. Mary of Weeting, ſir John Hoo, his " chaplain, and John Sauſtin, 30l. of ſilver, viz. to " each 100s. To all the houſes of friars mendicants " in the county of Norfolk, Suffolk, Eſſex, and Cam- " bridgeſhire, five marks each. To Joan, his wife, " all his wardrobe, and all his ſilver veſſels, " with all his other utenſils and ornaments belong- " ing to his houſe, not before bequeathed, with all " his other goods and chattels in his manors of

" Knapton, Tofture, and Chelefworth. To fir Wil-
" liam Beauchamp, and fir John Marmion, knts. to
" each a filver cup with a cover, to be made new,
" weighing 10lb. in grofs; to fir Stephen Hales, John
" de Burgh, Richard de Sutton, knts. and Edmund
" Gurney, to each of them a new cup to be made of
" filver, with a cover, each of the weight of 10 marks
" in grofs. To his fon, John Howard, all his ar-
" mour and furniture of war; to the prifons of New-
" gate, and Ludgate, in London, Norwich, Colchef-
" ter, Hertford, and Cambridge, 6l. viz. 20s. to each,
" to be diftributed among the prifoners there, and
" the refidue of his goods and chattels (after his debts
" are paid, and legacies are difcharged) to be applied
" as his executors fhall fee moft expedient, for fome
" prieft to pray for his foul, &c."

Sir John Howard, by Margaret, daughter and heir of fir John de Plays, had a fon, John Howard, efq. who dying on a journey to the Holy Land, in 1410, left Elizabeth, his daughter and heir, married to John Vere, earl of Oxford, whofe grandfon, John earl of Oxford, dying without iffue, this manor fell to his three fifters and co-heireffes; Elizabeth, married to fir Anthony Wingfield, of Letheringham, in Suffolk, Dorothy, to John Neville, lord Latimer, and Urfula, married to fir Edward Knightley, which Urfula dying without iffue, one part of the town was veffed in the lord Latimer, and the other in the Wingfields.

In 1558 fir Robert Wingfield, fon and heir of fir Anthony, had livery of his moiety, which was divided into many parcels by him and his heirs.

About the end of queen Elizabeth's reign the Wingfields fold the remaining part of their moiety to Thomas Wright, efq. and this was held by his de-

fcendents,

ſcendents, the Wrights of Kilverſton, till about 1730, when it was ſold to Mr. Henry Cockfedge, of Thetford.

The lords Latimer held not their moiety ſo long. In 1572 Thomas Dobbs, gent. enjoyed it. Soon after it was conveyed to George Fowler, eſq. of Broomhill, who was lord in the 26th of Elizabeth, and died in 1613 (as appears from the regiſter) lord and patron of both Weetings, and his grandſon, George Fowler, conveyed the right of patronage of both the churches in this town to the maſter and fellows of Gonville and Caius college in Cambridge, and for certain conſiderations tied this manor with the annual payment of 100l. to the ſaid college. After the Fowlers it was held by the Tyrrells, and from them it paſſed to the lord Allington.

Broomhill, or Bromehill Priory, ſtood about a mile ſouth-eaſt of the town, in the pariſh of Weeting, on the north ſide of, and very near to the preſent farmhouſe, called Broomhill-houſe, which aroſe out of the ruins of the ſaid priory, where are many foundations of old walls, &c. to be ſeen, as is the ſcite of the conventual church, which was a long narrow building. Here ſeveral ſtone coffins have been dug up within a few years. As the laity were ſuperſtitiouſly fond of being buried (in that age) in conventual churches, ſo no doubt many conſiderable perſons were here interred, beſides the Plays, the founders and patrons of it. It was dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, and St. Thomas the martyr, archbiſhop of Canterbury, for canons regular, of the order of St. Auguſtine, and founded by ſir Hugh de Plays, in or about the reign of king John.

In the 7th of Henry III. a fair was granted to the prior, &c. to be held on the 7th of July, the tranſlation-day of Thomas Becket, and in the following year the prior is ſaid to have a market here, of both which he was diſſeiſed by the duke of Lancaſter, who afterwards granted them to the corporation of Thetford, who now are lords of the fair.

The common ſeal, as affixed to a deed dated in the priory of Broomhill, on Thurſday the feaſt of the tranſlation of St. Thomas the martyr, in the year 1331, and 5th of Edward III. was in the hands of the late Mr. Thomas Martin, of Palgrave, and is oblong, of green wax, repreſenting (as it ſeems) the mitre of a biſhop, over it a creſent, and under it a ſtar.

William Barlow, alias Finch, occurs in 1525, and was the laſt prior. He was firſt a canon regular of St. Oſith, in Eſſex, prior of Tiptre, and Lees, in Eſſex, Haverford-weſt, in Pembrokeſhire, and of Biſham, in Berkſhire, rector of Creſſingham Magna, in Norfolk, and afterwards biſhop of St. Aſaph, St. David's, Bath and Wells, and Chicheſter.

The founder endowed this houſe with a moiety of the manor of Weeting, and in the 3d of Edward I. the prior was returned as lord of the ſame, and with the moiety of the town of Croxton. Sir Richard de Plays, in or about the year 1349, gave them the rectory of Croxton, which was appropriated in 1401. Several perſons were afterwards liberal benefactors.

Richard II. in the 9th year of his reign, gave them the church of Abingdon, in Northamptonſhire; and in the 15th year of that king they had licence to hold the aforeſaid manor of Feltwell in mortmain; they alſo had the advowſon of Mundeford in 1428.

The

The whole tax of their ſpiritualities and temporalities in the ſaid year was 38l. 1s. 6d. Tenths 3l. 16s. 1d. ob.

This priory fell before the general diſſolution by a bull of pope Clement VII. dated May 14, 1528, and on the 16th of September following it was accordingly ſuppreſſed, and John de Vere, earl of Oxford, then patron, releaſed the ſaid priory the ſame year to cardinal Wolſey, to whom the king had granted it on December 30, with the manors of Broomhill, Croxton, &c. a mill in Weeting, and 20l. rent iſſuing out of the manor of Weeting, the rectory and advowſon of Croxton, together with all the meſſuages, lands, and tenements belonging to the ſaid priory, lying in Broomhill, Weeting, &c. in Norfolk, and in Barnham by Thetford, Ickworth, and Mildenhall, in Suffolk. But ſoon after, on the cardinal's præmunire, the ſaid grant was re-aſſumed, and on his attainder all the aforeſaid premiſes were granted January 2, in the 23d of Henry VIII. to the maſter and fellows of Chriſt's College in Cambridge, by way of exchange, for the manor of Royden in Eſſex, and Hertfordſhire.

A modern author calls this a monaſtery of Benedictines, and aſſerts that Henry VIII. ſold the ſcite and lands to ſir Thomas Woodhouſe, of Waxham, but with what juſtice may be ſeen above. Of a like miſtake is the author of *Antiquitates Britannicæ* guilty, who obſerves, that the king ſuppreſſed this houſe on account of the crimes and demerits of the prior and canons, proved on them before the biſhops of Rocheſter, Saliſbury, and Norwich, and declared them in 1524 forfeited to the exchequer, with all their revenues and farms, and that the maſter and fellows of St. John's college, in Cambridge, obtained of the king and the pope the ſaid priory and its revenue:

and under the ſame charge lies Fuller*, in ſaying the exchange between the college and the king was in the reign of Edward VI.

In the reigns of queen Elizabeth, and James I. the Fowlers, who had a conſiderable eſtate in Weeting, held this by leaſe from Chriſt's college. The Fowlers were a family of good account.

Afterwards this farm was held by the Pecks, Shadwells, and Tookes, and Thomas Shadwell, eſq. poet-laureat, is ſaid to be born here; it is at preſent held by leaſe of the aforeſaid college.

Mr. Stephens, in his additions to the *Monaſticon Anglicanum*, obſerves, that there is no mention made there of this priory, and Mr. Willis gives us only the name of the laſt prior.

Weeting All Saints. This church ſtands at the north-eaſt part of the town; it has a nave, a north aile, covered with lead, and a chancel that is thatched, all built of flint-ſtones, boulder, &c. At the weſt end of the nave ſtands an old wooden ſhed, or belfry, in which hang four bells. The nave is about forty-one feet in length, and thirty-three in breadth, including the north aile; the roof of the nave is of oak, and the principals are ſupported by figures of religious perſons, now much defaced: at the weſt end of the nave, on the pavement, are two bells, removed hither on the fall of the church of St. Mary. The chancel is in length about twenty-nine feet, and ſeventeen in breadth. On the pavement, at the weſt end, lies a grave-ſtone, inſcribed to Francis Hobman, rector of both the churches of Weeting, and died

* Hiſtory of Cambr. p. 91.

died anno Dni. 1669, aged 74: he gave to Caius college 100l. for ſuch uſes as that ſociety ſhould think proper.

Near the centre of the pavement lies a marble ſtone, with Wright's arms impaling Smith, inſcribed —*To Anna Maria Wright, late wife of Deputy John Wright, of London, woollen-draper, and daughter of Nathaniel Smith, of Barnwell, in the county of Northampton, eſq. who died May* 19, *aged* 62. *Alſo Mr. John Wright, citizen and merchant-taylor, of London, who died September* 14, 1728, *aged* 83 *years.*

On the ſaid pavement lies alſo an old grave-ſtone, with a croſs floral in a circle on the ſummit of a ſtaff, in memory, moſt likely, of ſome rector; and near the ſouth wall, at the eaſt end of the chancel, is another old grave-ſtone, with a croſs pattee cut on the head of a ſtaff, probably in memory (it being the inſignia) of a knight templar.

Croſſes were very anciently fixed, or carved, on monuments, or grave-ſtones: amongſt the laws of Kenneth, king of Scotland, who flouriſhed about 840, we meet with this: "Eſteem every ſepulchre, or grave-ſtone, ſacred, and adorn it with the ſign of the croſs, which take care you do not ſo much as tread on;" but the fathers for that very reaſon forbid it to be placed on any grave-ſtones.

On the ſummit of the eaſt window of the chancel is this ſhield:—Azure, three ducal crowns, or, St. Edmund, and the Eaſt-Angles.—And below it Plays' arms. This window is ornamented in many places with leopards heads.

In

In the middle of the chancel, on the ſouth ſide, is Howard's ſhield. Weaver tells us, that in the ſouth window of the church of Weeting St. Mary was the portraiture of ſir John Howard, who married Margaret, the heir of Plays, in a ſupplicant poſture; on his ſurtout, the arms of Howard; by him alſo the ſaid arms, and thoſe of Plays.

In the rector's anſwer to king James's queries, in 1603, he obſerves that there were 104 communicants here.

William Peters, A. M. rector of Weeting All Saints, was buried here Sept. 16, 1708, and left an eſtate at Cherry-Hinton, in Cambridgeſhire, to Caius college, for exhibitions to poor ſcholars.

This church is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 10l. 8s. 1d. ob. firſt fruits 9l. 7s. 11d. 1q. tenths 1l. 9d. 3q.

Weeting St. Mary. This church ſtood in the ſouth part of the town, and is now in ruins, by the fall of a tower on it, about eighty years paſt; it was the neateſt, the moſt regular, and modern church of the two, built of flint, chalk, &c. and conſiſted of a nave about thirty-five feet in length, and (including the ſouth aile) thirty-one in breadth, having on that ſide three neat arches, ſupported by pillars, formed of four pilaſters united together. At the weſt end of the nave ſtood an handſome ſquare tower of flint, with quoins, &c. of free-ſtone, as appears from what is ſtill remaining; the nave is divided from the chancel by a neat and lofty arch of ſtone-work, ſtill ſtanding; the length of the chancel was about thirty-three feet, and the breadth eighteen; the greateſt part of the

the walls, both of the church and chancel, is ſtill ſtanding, but the roof is totally decayed and gone.

On the area of the chancel, now overgrown with nettles, &c. lies a marble grave-ſtone, with the arms of Tooke, impaling Smith, and this:—*H. S. S. Magdalena, Jacobi Tooke de Bromhill, gener: conjux piiſſima, Jan.* 29, *anno Dom.* 1678, *ætat. ſuæ* 32, *necnon Johannes Jacobi filius, infans, Aug.* 27, *anno Dom.* 1677.

At the eaſt end of this chancel, on brick-work, lies a ſtone, with the arms of Coppinger, impaling Kirkham:—*Gregory Coppinger, of Broomehill-Houſe, died the* 10*th of February*, 1724, *aged* 65 *years. Elizabeth, his wife, buried the* 19*th of July*, 1702, *aged* 40 *years.*

The church-yard here is kept incloſed, and is ſtill uſed by the pariſhioners for a place of burial.

There were anciently in this church theſe arms: France; England alone; Eaſt-Angles; Ely abbey; Clare; Fitz-Walter; Marſhall; Howard, Vere, and Bardolph; Carleton, Mohun, &c.

This church (or rather a portion of tithes in this pariſh) was given, as we read in Dugdale's Monaſticon, to the priory of Huntington, in 1147, and 6s. per ann. in Feltwell, by Hugh Plays; for that religious houſe was taxed for its portion in St. Mary Weeting, in 1428, at eight marks, and the rector paid it to the ſaid priory.

When Norwich Doomſday-book was wrote, the Lady Alice de Plays was patroneſs of this church, and the rector had a houſe and forty acres of land.

In

In 1309, July 12, Edward II. as guardian of the minor of ſir Giles de Plays, preſented to this church.

In 1438 here were one hundred and forty acres of glebe land.

In 1603 there were eighty-two communicants in this pariſh.

The maſter and fellows of Gonville, and Caius College, in Cambridge, are the preſent patrons; and ſince September 17, 1651, this church hath been held united with Weeting All Saints.

This church is valued in the king's books at 8l. 1s. 8d. firſt fruits 7l. 5s. 6d. and tenths 16s. 2d. but by the laſt act of queen Anne it is diſcharged from theſe, being ſworn at 45l. per ann. clear value.

Several of the family of Fowler are buried here.

In a cloſe adjoining to the eaſt end of the church-yard of Weeting All Saints are to be ſeen great and venerable ruins of a large ſquare caſtle, built of flint-ſtone, &c. and has been moated round; at one corner is a riſing hill, where probably ſtood the keep; this caſtle was the ſeat of the family of de Plays.

About two miles eaſtward of the town, and in this pariſh, are thoſe entrenchments, or holes, called Grime's-Graves, of which we have treated in the account of the hundred, and between the town and that place are ſeveral tumuli.

On the weſt ſide of the town, from the edge of the fen, ariſes a bank, or ditch, which runs ſome miles, and parts Weeting from Wilton and Feltwell, called the

the Foſs; and in the fields of Weeting, north of the town, is a green way, called Walſingham-Way, uſed (as it is ſaid) by pilgrims in their way to the Lady of Walſingham, a madona of ſuch high repute, that the Galaxia, or Milky-Way, was called by the people of thoſe parts the Walſingham-Way, as pointing to that angle; here was formerly a ſtone croſs, now broke into two pieces, commonly called the ſtump croſſes.

Weeting is at this day one of the favorite ſpots for courſing: at the courſing matches annually held at Swaffham, by the noblemen and gentlemen in that neighbourhood, the greyhounds are all matched like race-horſes at Newmarket, and betts laid, as upon the turf.

The right honorable Charles Henry Coote, bart. earl of Montrath, of the kingdom of Ireland, and one of his majeſty's moſt honorable privy council there, has conſiderable property in Weeting, and has built a large houſe, in which he now reſides. His lordſhip has alſo incloſed a park, made many plantations, roads, and other valuable improvements, which adds much to the beauty of this country. The village lies near the road from Lynn, twenty-three miles, to Brandon, one, and London, ſeventy-nine.

In 1773 the Rev. Charles Smith was preſented to the rectory of Weeting St. Mary, with All Saints, by Caius College, Cambridge.

KEBURN. Under the land of the earl Warren, and in this hundred, a town of this name occurs in the book of Doomſday; one Roger in the Conſeſſor's time had half a carucate of land here, held by two free-

free-men, valued at 3s. In the bounds of Broomhill, on a green near to the Ouſe-Parva, where formerly Broomhill fair was kept, many foundation-ſtones have been dug up, and ſome years paſt a large key, like an old church key; ſome grounds here are called by the name of Keburn at this day: this has induced us to fix the ſcite of this place here, otherwiſe now loſt and unknown.

The leſſer Ouſe here divides the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, over which river is a ſtone bridge at BRANDON. This town had formerly a weekly market on Thurſday, now diſcontinued, and has three annual fairs, viz. Feb. 14, June 11, and Nov. 11. A conſiderable trade is carried on here by water to Lynn, &c. and by the poſt road to London, where rabbets and eggs are ſent in abundance. Here is a good inn, and poſt-office, and the town itſelf is rather handſome than otherwiſe. Mr. James Denton has lately built a good houſe on the north ſide of the river.

THE

HISTORY

OF

NORFOLK.

Hundred of GUILTCROSS,

Or GILTCROSS,

TAKES its name from ſome remarkable croſs that was gilt, which either ſtood in it, or was to be ſeen in great part of it; though Mr. Kerr obſerves, it was ſpelled anciently Gydecroſs, from ſome croſs that was a guide to travellers; and Mr. Blomefield was of opinion, "it might be Roudham-croſs, which at that time was ſeen in great part of *this* hundred, and was certainly a very remarkable one, that town

taking its name from it; Rowdham, or Roodham, as it is anciently written, fignifies the town of the crofs; and thus alfo Bridgeham, in *this* hundred,* was fo called from the bridge, which was the paffage to this crofs, which, with the road, became remarkable from being the common way by which pilgrims took their journey out of Suffolk, and other parts of the country, to our Lady of Walfingham."

This hundred is about ten miles from eaft to weft, and four and a half from north to fouth, and contains thirteen towns, all which are in Rockland deanry, and Norfolk archdeaconry; it was in the Confeffor's hands as belonging to the manor of Kenninghall, and came to the Conqueror, who held it at the furvey, as belonging to the fame, it being then worth 20s. a year, the foc of the whole hundred belonging thereto, all which was committed to earl Godric's care, who had it but a little while, for the Conqueror gave it with Kenninghall, Buckenham, Snettifham, and Wymondham manors, to William de Albaniaco, or Albany, who came into England with him, all which were to be held by the fervice of being the king's butler on the coronation-day. In this family it continued till Hugh de Albany, or D'Aubigny, died feifed in 1243, leaving it in dower to Ifabel, his wife, daughter of William earl Warren and Surrey, and foundrefs of Marham abbey: but as this hundred hath continually gone, and ftill remains with the manor of Kenninghall, we have no occafion to trace its owners any further in this place.

In 1236 it was found by a jury, that the king had more right of pleading in his county court pleas of Withernam,

* Roudham and Bridgeham are in Shropham hundred.

Withernam †, and of taking cattle, that the hundreds of Freebridge, Smithdon, Guiltcrofs, and Shropham, had in their hundred courts; upon which Hugh de Albany being aſked, Whether he had any charters of liberty? anſwered, That he knew not, his deeds being depoſited in Wymondham priory, for which reaſon he deſired time to ſearch: the court ordered him to find ſecurity to anſwer the king all arrears, from the time of his coronation; upon which Hugh ſurrendered ſeiſin of the liberties to the king, and the king deferred amercing him for damages till he had ſpoken with the earl Warren. This gives opportunity to obſerve, that the king was then preſent in the court, and judgment was given by him, though in his *own* cauſe, which is directly contrary to the opinion of divers great authors: and this aſſertion may be further proved by a record in the 25th year of this king, where, in an appeal for felony, the entry on the roll is thus: "And becauſe our ſovereign lord the king "was abſent, and there being but few of his coun- "cil there, they which were preſent would not give "judgment for a duel, nor do any thing elſe in the "abſence of the king, or the major part of his coun- "cil;" ſo that we ſee generally the king was preſent, or if not, there was no judgment paſſed, unleſs the greater part of his council were there.

In 1249 return was made that Iſabel, counteſs of Arundel, held 40l. a year in land in this hundred, that her marriage was in the king's gift, and that the hundred was worth ſeven marks a year, and had not liberty of return of writs, nor other liberties, as ſome

† Withernam, is a writ to empower a ſheriff to take any goods that are diſtrained and carried out of his county, and refuſe them to the owner, he being not able to do it by a replevin.

hundreds had, and that it paid yearly 40d. to the king's uſe ‡.

In 1274 Henry le Noble, ſheriff of Norfolk, lett Guilteroſs and Brothereroſs hundreds for 42s. a year, which uſed to be lett at 15l. this was when the king had the marriage of Iſabel aforeſaid, or when he ſeized ſome of her eſtates, for her bold, but true ſpeech, that ſhe made unto him, which you may ſee in Dugdale's Baronage, vol. 1. fol. 121. In 1286, when Roger de Mentealt held it, it was then valued at 13l. per ann. out of which he paid the king 40d. yearly; and the liberties allowed to the hundred, in an eire at Norwich, were theſe, *ſc.* view of frankpledge, aſſize of bread and beer, a gallows, and waif. In 1537 it was worth 6l. 13s. 4d. a year.

In the court book of this hundred, in 1578, which is among Mr. Neve's collections, we find the following manors are held of it, by certain yearly payments, viz. the manors of Uphall, and Bokenham's, in Garboldiſham; of Furneaux, in Middle Harling; of Seckford's, in Weſt Harling; Mainwarring's, Fawconer's, and Felbrigg's, in Eaſt Harling; Broomhall, and Semere's, in Blo-Norton; Madekyn's manor, in Quidenham, and Hockham's manor there; Marſhall's, Grey's, and Beckhall, in Banham; Eſthawe, or College manor, in Ruſhworth, and Boldham's manor there, which alſo belonged to the college; Uphall, and Wretham's, in Gaſthorpe; Clarke's tenement, in South Lopham, and Porter's, in Riddleſworth; Styward's and Ruſſell's tenements there; Goodſon's tenement, in North Lopham; with divers other lands; all which do ſuit and ſervice to the hundred

‡ Becauſe all theſe privileges belonged to the king's liberty, which were afterwards granted to the duke of Norfolk.

hundred court at Kenninghall every three weeks, each ſuit being valued at 2s.

The tenement, or manor of John Church, of Garboldiſham, and Pakenham's manor, in Garboldiſham, owe ſuit every three weeks, or 2s. each ſuit.

The hundred court was always kept at Kenninghall every three weeks, but on account of that market's being diſuſed, it is removed, and kept at Market Harling.

It is bounded on the eaſt by Diſs hundred; on the ſouth by the river Ouſe, that parts Norfolk and Suffolk; on the weſt by Thetford; and on the north by Shropham hundred, which is divided from it by the river that runs from Quidenham Mere to Thetford. The ſuperior liberty, as to the game, and many other privileges, belong to his grace the duke of Norfolk, as lord paramount of the hundred, all which is in his peculiar liberty and juriſdiction, called the duke of Norfolk's liberty.

The towns in this hundred are as follow, to which is added the number of votes polled by freeholders reſident in each, for knights of the ſhire, at the general election, March 23, 1768.

	W.	de G.	A.	C.
Banham -	11	11	14	13
Blo-Norton -	1	0	5	4
Garboldiſham -	13	11	7	6
Gaſthorpe -	0	0	0	0
Harling Eaſt -	2	3	5	6
Harling Weſt -	0	0	0	0
Kenninghall -	4	5	7	8
Lopham North -	7	9	9	9

Lopham South -	3	3	6	6
Riddlefworth -	0	0	0	0
Quidenham -	3	3	6	6
Ruſhford, with Snarehill	0	0	3	3
Total	44	45	62	61

Principal Seats and Houſes in this Hundred.

Garboldiſham, Chriſp Molineux, eſq. M. P. for Lynn Regis.
Harling Eaſt, - —— Wright, eſq.
Harling Weſt, - Richard Croftes, eſq. member for Cambridge Univerſity.
Kenninghall Place, William Pawlet, eſq.
Quidenham, - Earl of Albemarle
Shadwell Lodge, John Buxton, eſq.

The half of this hundred, towards Thetford, is champaign, the land being very light and ſandy, the other is heavy ground and enclofed; it produces plenty of grain of all kinds, and in the champaign part there are good flocks of ſheep; the foil there is chiefly a chalk under the ſand.

It pays to the general county rate 1 l. 3s. 3d. for a ſix hundred pound levy, and, with Shropham hundred, conſtitutes the deanry of Rockland, in the archdeaconry of Norfolk.

BANHAM, wrote in Doomſday-book BENHAM. There were three manors in this town, all which are now united, though each retains its name in the ſtile of the court, which is Banham, Marſhall's, Beck-hall, and Grey's; the cuſtoms of which are, that the lands deſcend to the eldeſt ſon; the fines are at the lord's will,

will, it gives a third dower, and the tenants cannot fell timber on the copyhold without the lord's licence, unleſs to repair their copyhold premiſſes.

MARSHALL'S was the head manor, part of which was owned by the abbot of Ely at the confeſſor's ſurvey, of whom it was held in the conqueror's time by William de Schoies, L'Eſcois, or the Scot, who in his own right then held another part and the advowſon. At this time the church had thirty acres of land belonging to it; part of this manor Ordar then held of the ſaid William at one carucate, which with the advowſon was afterwards given to York abbey, and in the confeſſor's time was held (together with the manor and advowſon of Wilby) by Fader, L'Eſcois's predeceſſor. The whole town of Banham was three miles long and two broad, and paid 14d. ob. gelt, or tax, out of every 20s. that was laid on the hundred.

In the time of William II. William de Eſchois, for the health of the ſoul of that king his lord, gave to the monks of St. Mary's abbey, by York walls, the advowſon of this church, with a carucate of land here, together with the advowſon of Wilby and two parts of the tithes of his demeſnes, which were after valued at eight marks per ann. and for that ſum lett to the rector and his ſucceſſors. This penſion was after granted by that abbey to their priory, or cell, at Rumburgh in Suffolk, in which it continued until it was diſſolved by Cardinal Wolſey, who procured bulls to diſſolve this and ſome other ſmall monaſteries, in order to erect two colleges, one at Oxford, and the other at Ipſwich; beſides thoſe bulls and letters patent that he had obtained of the king, he procured releaſes of them from the patrons, for the abbot of St. Mary at York releaſed to Thomas Capon, dean of the cardinal's college at Ipſwich, all his right in the

priory

priory of Rumburgh, and all its poſſeſſions lying in Banham, Wilby, Coſſey, Bawburgh, and Swaffham, in Norfolk and in other places in other counties.—This portion was iſſuing out of his demeſne lands in Banham and Wilby, jointly, but yet the whole was paid out of Banham, that rectory being by far the beſt; the donation was confirmed by Henry I. and by Everard Biſhop of Norwich, and Theobold archbiſhop of Canterbury. After this the ſaid William ſold the manors to Walter Giffard, who gave the advowſons to the abbey of Nuttley, which he had founded in his park at Crendon, near Tame in Buckinghamſhire, but it appearing that William de Eſcois had given them to York abbey before the ſale, Giffard's grant had no force. Walter Giffard, ſon and heir of the aforeſaid Walter, ſold it to John le Mareſchall, whoſe ſon John le Mareſchall, was lord in 1276, in which year he brought an action againſt the abbot of York, in order to recover the advowſon, but without ſucceſs. In 1285, Haviſe, Widow of John le Mareſchall was lady, and had free-warren, view of frankpledge, aſſize of bread and beer allowed her to this manor, which was then valued at 40l. per year; ſhe held it in dower of the inheritance of John le Mareſchall a minor, then the king's ward, who died under age. In 1332 Sir Anſelm Mareſchall, knt. was lord, who held it at the third part of a fee of the earl of Glouceſter, and paid 13s. 4d. relief. This Sir Anſelm united the manors, for he held the manor which John le Grey, &c. formerly held at one fee of the earl Marſhall, he of the earl Warren, and he of the king, and paid forty ſhillings relief, and the ſaid Sir Anſelm, jointly with William de Banham, and his tenants, held half a fee of John de Beck, for which he paid 20s. relief after Sir Anſelm's death. William de Morley, marſhal of Ireland was lord, who in 1361 granted to Sir John de Harling, and his heirs, free

commonage

commonage in Banham for all manner of beafts; it was after in Havife le Mareſchall, wife of Robert de Morley. In 1380 Thomas de Felton, knt. and Joan his wife, had theſe, and Wilby manor; Joan held them to her death, which was long after her huſband's; they left two daughters their heireſſes, Mary the eldeſt married to Sir Edmund Hengrave, knt. and Iſabel, or Sibill, to Sir Thomas de Morley. In 1401 the ſaid Joan ſettled them after her death on her two daughters, their huſbands and their heirs. In 1415 they were ſettled in truſt for Sibill de Felton, abbeſs of Berking. Theſe manors remained for ſome time after in the hands of truſtees and feoffees. In 1432 Sir Thomas Morley, knt. conveyed them in fee to William Alnwick, biſhop of Norwich, Sir John Tirrel, knt. Sir Ralph Cromwell, knt. and their heirs, and in the ſame year Thomas Greene, of Weſt-Creeting in Suffolk, releaſed to them all his right in the manors of Marſhall and Grey, and the moiety of Beckhall, which extended into Banham, Wilby, Quidenham, Old Buckenham, Winfarthing, and Tibenham, from which time they went with Buckenham caſtle until they were ſold to Thomas duke of Norfolk, in whoſe family they ſtill continue, the duke of Norfolk being now lord. In 1558, Sir John Tirrel, of Gipping, granted all his right in the manor, with many lands here, to the duke, who gave him Cotton and Bacton manors in exchange.

Grey's Manor, at the firſt ſurvey, belonged to Leſſius a freeman, who had a carucate in demeſne; it was William earl Warren's at the Conqueror's ſurvey, and belonged to his caſtle at Lewes. It went from William the ſecond earl Warren, who died in 1135, to Reginald de Warren, a younger ſon, whoſe chief ſeat was at Wormegay, or Wrongay, in Clackcloſe, which he had by marrying Alice, daughter and

heirefs to William de Wormegay. At his death William his ſon ſucceeded, who died in 1209, leaving Beatrice his daughter, then widow of Dodo, or Doun-Bardolph, his heir, by which marriage this manor came to the ſaid Doun, who very ſoon after parted with it to Hugh Bardolph, his couſin: this Hugh was ſheriff of Cornwall in the year 1184, one of the king's lieutenants in England, when he was in Normandy in 1186, aſſociate to the biſhop of Durham and Ely, to adminiſter juſtice in the realm during the king's abſence in the Holy Land, being in ſuch high eſteem with Richard I. that in the third year of his reign (1191) when he was in the Holy Land, and ſuſpected his chancellor, (to whom he had chiefly committed the charge of governing in his abſence) he wrote a letter to Hugh Bardolph and others, requiring them, that if the chancellor did not do as he ought, they ſhould take upon them the rule in all things, from which time he was one of the king's juſtices, and for ſome years juſtice itinerant, of whoſe warlike actions and honors more may be ſeen in Mr. Dugdale's Baronage, vol 1. p. 284. He died in 1203, in the fifth year of king John's reign, without iſſue male, leaving Robert Bardolph, his only brother, his heir, and a widow, who after married John de Brahoſe.—This Robert was a prieſt, and parſon, or rector of no leſs than thirty churches, an argument of his intereſt with the pope at that time, who uſually granted by way of proviſo (as it was called) many rectories to one man, under pretence that the income, over and above ſerving them, ſhould go towards the expences of the holy war, the darling enterprize of that age.—Robert died in 1224, leaving his inheritance diviſible among his five ſiſters, of which Iſolda (as the Latin records) or Idoyne (as the French) the eldeſt, married Sir Henry de Grey, knt. to whoſe ſhare this manor, with others, was allotted: by Iſolda he had ſix ſons, to the

ſecond

ſecond of which he gave this manor, viz. John, ſome time juſtice of Cheſter, progenitor to the Greys of Wilton and Ruthyn; he was a moſt remarkable man in the time of Henry III. In 1267 he held it of the earl Warren at one fee, and died this year, leaving it to Reginald his ſon, who in 1277 had free-warren allowed him; he died in 1307, leaving Henry his ſon and heir, and Roger a younger ſon by a ſecond wife, from which Henry the Greys of Wilton deſcended, and from Roger, thoſe of Ruthyn; Roger died in 1352, but long before had parted with this manor, for in 1328 Sir Robert de Morley had an intereſt in it, if not the fee, and in 1345 Sir Anſelm Mareſchall was ſole lord, and held it united to Mareſchall's manor.

Beckall Manor was in two parts in the Conqueror's time, the chief of it belonged to Aluric, a free-man, who held it of biſhop Oſborn, who owned it in the time of king Edward; it had then one carucate in demeſne, and woods that would maintain a hundred hogs, the whole of that part being then worth 20s. and 40s. at the ſurvey. The other part was only one ſoc-man, and his ſervices, of 2s. value, which formerly belonged to Ely abbey; but after the conqueſt Roger Bigot's anceſtors had him.

This manor afterwards came to the crown, for when Henry II. (*anno* 1175) aſſeſſed his demeſnes, his tenants of Banham were taxed at half a mark.

It was afterwards in the Bigots, and then in the Munchenſies, of whom John de Jerpenville held it, who divided it; for William de Banham in 1218 held a good part of it of the ſaid John.

In 1311 John de Beck, of Banham, divided it into so many parts, and each called Beckhall manor, that it is impoſſible to know how they all went, except the biggeſt part, to which all the reſt were afterwards joined; and that in 1329 was owned by William de Claydon. In 1345 the heirs of John de Claydon, and his tenants of the other part, held a moiety of it of Hugh le Vere, he of the earl Marſhal, and he of the king.

The other moiety was now joined to the other manors, ſir Anſelm le Mareſchall having purchaſed it ſome time before of John de Beck.

In 1401 John Darlington had it, and from that time till it came to the duke of Norfolk in the time of Henry VIII. and at his attainder it was given to ſir Francis Calthorpe, of Ingham. In 1558 William Calthorpe, of Hempſtead, had it; after which it ſoon came to the Norfolk family again, ſir John Tirrell releaſing it in 1558.

In 1226 Stephen de Ebroic, lord of Wilby, (who held part of the carucate of land in Banham that was given to York abbey, which part always was included in Wilby manor, after he had purchaſed it of Walter Giffard, who ſold the reſt to the Marſhals,) had a grant for a fair and market in Banham; the market hath been diſuſed time immemorial, but the fair is ſtill kept on St. Barnabas's day.

In 1285 Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, claimed aſſize of bread and ale in Lopham and Banham; but as to Banham, he acknowledged that it belonged not to him, but to Roger de Montealt, lord of the hundred. It was thought to belong to him on account of Beck-hall manor, which was held of him.

The

The countefs of Arundel had liberty of a gallows here in 1256, and Grey's manor was then held of her.

The HAUGH, or HAWE, was part of Beck hall manor, which was excepted when it was fold, and therefore that paffed with Winfarthing manor, in the Munchenfies, Veres, and other families that owned it; it was no manor, but was originally part of the demefnes of Beck-hall, and contained 220 acres of wood and paffure, with a meffuage thereon built; it abutts eaft and fouth on Banham-heath.

In 1311 fir Hugh le Vere, then owner of it, purchafed of Richard le Foreſter, of Harling, a parcel of land of Over-haugh, in Banham, under the faid Hugh's wood, called Banham-haugh, extending itfelf from the common paffure lying at the head of the faid land, and was only ten feet broad, it being in order to incloſe the Haugh.

This came with Winfarthing manor to the Norfolk family, and was farmed under them by fir Henry Dye, knt. in 1607; it was afterwards fold off, and hath continued in private hands ever fince.

BANHAM HEATH is a large common, containing above twelve hundred acres of land, lying in the parifhes of Banham and Winfarthing, and in ancient evidences is divided into three parts: the whole that lies in Winfarthing, is called Winfarthing Chace; the part that joins to Tibenham, Carleton, and New Buckenham, is called Banham Outwood, and contains 300 acres; the part that joins to Banham is called Banham-green, and contains 300 acres more, on all which the tenants and inhabitants of Banham and Winfarthing only have right of commonage, and are intercommoners, each having the drift of their

ſeparate parts, and can common all manner of great cattle, as well as ſheep, at all times of the year.

In the time of James I. viz. 1618. there was a long ſuit between the townſmen of Banham and the townſmen of Tibenham, concerning the right of commonage upon this heath, the ſubſtance of which was this: the townſmen of Tibenham claimed an original right of commonage on the three hundred acres, called Banham Outwood, in Banham, in right of their copyhold lands and tenements, held of the manor of Tibenham, and common of vicinage on Banham-green, there being no fences, or ditches, between Banham Outwood and Banham-green; but upon the trial the townſmen of Tibenham were caſt, and paid 30l. damages and coſts, it being found by the jury, that the lord of Tibenham manor, and his tenants, had no original right on Banham Outwood, nor common of vicinage on Banham-green; and whereas there were divers tenants of the manor of Tibenham that claimed right of commonage for ſet numbers of ſheep going on this heath, by the grants of divers of the former lords of the manor of Banham, all which commonages were held by copy of court-roll of the manor of Banham in fee, by a fine of 10s. paid at every death, and two hens a year for the paſturage of every ſix ſcore ſheep thereon, John Clark, of Banham, (in behalf of the pariſh of Banham) brought his action againſt Matthew Buxton, of Tibenham, for feeding ſixty ſheep and one ram on the heath, according to the grant of the lord of the manor of Banham, made to the owner of his tenement, called Eaſt Angles, in Tibenham, and recovered damages and coſts, it being found by the jury, that ſuch cuſtomary paſturage, and commonage, was not to be demiſed, neither was it demiſable by copy of court-roll, by the lord of the manor of Banham,

Banham, to any cuſtomary tenant whatever; upon which all the commonages of this nature were ſet aſide. An exemplification of the whole, under ſeal, dated February 13, 1625, now lies in Banham town cheſt.

In 1611 there were three ſeparate juries, one for each manor, and the leet belonged to the manor, the leet-fee being 3s. 4d.

This town is now aſſeſſed at 1439l. 5s. to the land tax. In 1603 it had 400 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are 120 dwelling houſes and 650 inhabitants. It is a pretty village, ſtanding round a ſmall green, the church being on its weſt ſide.

This rectory hath a good parſonage houſe joining to the weſt ſide of the church-yard, and thirty-ſeven acres, two roods of glebe; it is charged in the king's books 9l. 3s. 6d. 1q.

In March, 1310, ſir James de Salucijs, ſon of the noble ſir John de Salucijs, was inſtituted by *proxy* to this rectory, at the command of R. abbot of Meſſendene, in Lincolnſhire, executor of the *apoſtolic indulgence* granted to the ſaid ſir James by Pope Clement V.

In 1520, October 26, Rowland Lee, doctor of the decrees, was inſtituted rector. In 1534 he was conſecrated biſhop of Litchfield and Coventry, and ſo vacated this living.

In 1577, July 18. queen Elizabeth preſented, from which time it hath been in the crown, and ſo continues.

In 1772 the Rev. Thomas Kerrich was preſented to this rectory by the crown.

The Tindals, alias Kendals, had a very good eſtate here, to which family Mr. Camden, clarencieux, granted arms in July, 1611. The heir male of the family is Mr. Robert Tindal, who lately ſold the eſtate at Banham, and lives at Rattleſden, in Suffolk.

The family of the Kendals, Clarks, Leches, and Colbys, were all conſiderable owners in this pariſh in 1483, and none of them are yet extinct.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, and is a regular building, forty-five yards long, having a nave, two ailes, chancel, ſouth porch, and veſtry, all leaded, a ſquare tower with a ſpire of wood covered with lead on its top, and in it five bells, a clock, and ſaints bell.

In the ſouth aile is an altar-tomb,—*For Mr. Robert Clark, who died June the 18th, 1685, aged 59.*

John Bringloe, gent. died here March 9, 1683;—John, his eldeſt ſon. July 3, 1714, aged 60 years;—Alſo Awdry, wife of the laſt John, Jan. 26, 1713.

In the north aile, at the eaſt end, is a chapel, or chantry, divided from the church by ſcreens, handſomely painted; in a niche in the wall lies a knight in armour, (founder of the church, if not, of this aile at leaſt, though we are apt to think the former, becauſe the whole building appears as if built at one time) it is oak carved; there is no inſcription remaining, but yet it is plain that it was made for ſir Hugh Bardolph, knt. ſome time lord of Grey's manor, in this town, who died in 1203; for under his left arm is a large cinquefoil, which is the badge of that family; and in the adjoining window are his arms, impaling

impaling Morley, which induces us to think he married one of that family. This ſir Hugh was with Richard I. at Meſſina, in Sicily, being one of thoſe who on the behalf of that king undertook that the articles of peace and friendſhip, which were then agreed on betwixt Richard I. and Tancred king of Sicily, ſhould be firmly kept, in order to carry on the holy wars, as they were called. This tomb is very antique and perfect.

The windows of the chapel, and thoſe of the church, were adorned with the following arms of the lords of this town, and others related to them, many of which now remain:—Marſhall, Bardolph, Ufford, Erpingham, Brotherton, and Clare; beſides theſe there were the arms of Morley, Kerdeſton, Caily, Bavent impaling arg. a croſs ingrailed az. Marſhall impaling Tirrel; Tirrell ſingle; Baſſingbourne and Gawdy; Clare impaling Plantagenet.

In the caſt window is a broken effigy of Bardolph.

This chapel belonged to the lords of the manors, who founded a chantry prieſt to ſing for the dead in it.

Oppoſite, in the ſouth aile, was another chapel, heretofore belonging to the guilds of the Hold Trinity, and St. Mary, in this town, to both which William Gye was a benefactor in 1479.

In the chancel, in a north window, was an effigy in a religious habit, with a broken ſcroll from his mouth.

Here

Here was a parcel of land given in the time of Henry VII. to find lamps before Trinity altar, called Lamp Lond.

The ancient names of the ſtreets are. Cherchegate, Tycknald, Fiſchenale, Weſtmor, Hardwick, and Welgate.

The croſſes were. Smalmor-croſs. white-croſs, Atte Borghe, and Allorth-croſs. Seynt Maries-Meer, and Banham-Gapp, are often mentioned in evidences.

In 1429 Peter Payn. of Banham, gave to Weſtacre prior 6s. 8d. to the canons there 13s. 4d. to the brethren of every houſe of friars in Norwich 10s. to ſay 100 maſſes for his ſoul; to each houſe of the friars at Thetford 10s. for 100 maſſes for his ſoul; to the prioreſs of the nuns at Thetford 6s. 8d. and to the convent 6s. 8d. to the chapel of the Bleſſed Virgin at Thetford 6s. 8d. to the repairing St. Peter's church 6s. 8d. He ordered to be buried in Banham church-yard, and gave 40s. to be divided among the poor at his burial; to every lazer-houſe at Norwich 3s. 4d. to the chapel of the Bleſſed Virgin at Buckenham 13s. 4d. to mend Hardwick Way, in Banham, 40s. and 40s. more to ſet up a croſs at the end of it, where the way parts.

Mr. Kidman had two braſſes which came off a ſtone in this church, containing inſcriptions of the ſame purport, one in Latin, the other in Engliſh, viz.

Hic jacet Dna. Elizabetha Mounteneye, quondam prioriſſa, hujus loci, que obijt xx°. *die menſis Aprilis, anno Dom.* mcccc°. xviii°. *cujus aie: propicietur Deus.*

Praye

Praye for the ſoule of Dame Elizabethe Mounteney, ſome time prioreſs of this place.

It hath occaſioned much ſurmiſe how this inſcription ſhould be true, when there was never any priory in this place, but the myſtery lies in the impropriety of the wording the inſcription, for the words *of this place* do not refer to her being prioreſs, but to herſelf, ſhe being born here, where her family for many generations had a good eſtate, and afterwards removed to Wilby, for ſhe was prioreſs of the monaſtry of nuns, and of St. George the Martyr at Thetford. In 1498, the 15th of September, the biſhop confirmed the election.

In 1631 Thomas Canne, only ſurviving feoffee of the freehold town-lands of Banham, renewed the feoffment to four feoffees, ſettling lands on them, and their heirs, "for the profit and advantage of all the inhabitants of the town of Banham for ever."

In 1544 Henry Coteſſey, or Coſſey, clerk, rector here, ſettled a meſſuage, called the Guild-hall, (which was a copyhold on Grey's *cum* Beckhall manor) on Edward Colby, and Thomas Canne, who were to hold it to this intention and uſe, viz. to keep the *obijt* of the ſaid Henry in the church of Banham, and to cauſe maſs to be celebrated for him. They held it till 1549 for that uſe, and then it fell to the lord by virtue of the ſtatute, who ſeized it accordingly, and then granted it to divers feoffees, who were to hold it "to the uſe and profit of all the copyhold tenants of Banham manor, inhabiting in Banham," upon condition, "that the lord of the manor, and his heirs, by himſelf, his ſervants, officers, or deputies, ſhall for ever have liberty to hold and keep his courts and leet for the ſaid manor, in the ſaid meſſuage, with free ingreſs,

greſs, egreſs, and regreſs, for all the tenants to do their buſineſs at ſuch courts, without the contradiction, or moleſtation of any one."

The feoffees alſo hold by copy of court-roll of the ſaid manor a parcel of ground, with a houſe thereon built, being twenty-ſeven feet broad, and thirteen feet long.

Here was a ſmall oratory, or hermitage, at a place called Stonebridge, the foundation of which may ſtill be ſeen.

BLO-NORTON, or NORTON, called Blow-Norton, corruptly for Norton Bel'eau, as it is anciently ſpelled, which ſignifies the north town upon the fair water, or river on which it is ſituated, and by which it is divided on its ſouth part from Suffolk.

It had four diſtinct manors in the conqueror's time, the firſt of which belonged to William earl Warren, and was held by Fulcher under him, of his caſtle of Lewes, and lay in Kenninghall Soken, before the earl had it; this was afterwards called Broome-hall manor, and was held of the earl Warren's caſtle at Acre by the ſervice of the fourth part of a fee, which ſervice deſcended with that caſtle and honor; it was after held of Tateſhale barony.

The ſecond was held as a diſtinct manor in the confeſſor's days, and in the conqueror's belonged to Alfius, who then added it to his manor of Lopham, as a beruite; from him it became part of the eſtate of Roger Bigot, under whom, at the ſurvey, Alured an Engliſhman held it; it was given very early by the Bigots to the Broomes, and ſo became part of Broome-hall

hall manor, being always held of the earls and dukes of Norfolk by the service of a quarter of a fee.

The third part belonged to the abbot of Bury, and was held by a foeman of his in the confessor's days, and by Joceline, brother of the abbot, in the conqueror's, the whole town being then a league long, and half a league broad, and paid 8d. ob. 1q. Dane geld; there were then five acres of land belonging to the church, this was called Semere's manor, from the Seymors, or St. Maur's, lords thereof, and was held of the abbey by the service of a whole knight's fee.

The fourth part belonged to Ely abbey, but we don't find who gave it, though imagine it was given with Garboldisham, to which it might then belong; it is plain it was seized as that was, and recovered from Roger Bigot in the conqueror's days, after which the abbot held it but a little while, for it came to earl Warren, whether by feoffment or purchase we cannot say: one of those earls granted it to William de la Snore, to be held of the castle at Acre by the service of a quarter of a fee, from which time we find nothing of it until 1288, and then William de Blo-Norton held it by that service. In 1401 John Armiger had it; and in 1570 one Chittock had it, but was soon after purchased and joined to Semere manor; it is now called Brent hall, or Burnt-hall, because the mansion-house was burnt down, and still retains a place in the stile of the court, which runs thus;—"Broome-hall and Semere's, with Brent-hall in Blow-Norton."

Broome-Hall manor was so called from the family of the Broomes, who had one part of it of the grant of the Bigots in very early days, the other part coming to them from Roger de Somery, whose ancestors had it of the earl Warren's gift. It seems that Roger de Broome married Petronilla, one of the heir-

esses

eſſes of Roger de Somery, and in the time of Henry III. held it jointly with her as part of the inheritance of Roger de Somery, of the earl of Arundel; this was about 1280, in this family it remained until on the deceaſe of James Broome, eſq. without iſſue. About 1510 it deſcended to his two ſiſters, viz. Mary Jermy and Anne, firſt married to Robert Stede, eſq. after to John Brampton, and then to Robert Rookwood, gent. at her death the whole went to Thomas Brampton her ſon and heir, who had purchaſed the other moiety in 1533 of Edward Jermy, ſon and heir of Mary Broome, ſhe and Ralph Shelton, eſq. ſon of Sir John Shelton, knt. her ſecond huſband, joining to make a complete title, and thus it was joined to SEMERE-HALL manor, which was part of the revenues of Bury abbey, and belonged to Jocceline, brother to abbot Baldwin, who infeoffed him in it in the conqueror's time; it after came to the Bigots, of whom it was held in the eleventh century by the family ſirnamed de Cadomo, or Caam; Richard de Caam was lord and patron of St. Andrew's in 1280, and in 1285 Olive his widow, who held it dower, remitted all her claim and right to Sir John de Dykele, knt. who ſeems to be heir general to Richard de Caam, and in the ſame year Sir John granted it Ralfh de Sancto Mauro, or Seymoreſt, and Alice his wife, and their heirs. In 1345 John de Seymor was lord, and held it of John de Segrave as of his manor of Forncet, he of the abbot

† This Ralph was attached to anſwer the king, that whereas he had commanded him to attend him perſonally at Carliſle with his whole ſervice in his army againſt the Scots fifteen days after Eaſter, or before that time to appear at the exchequer and fine for that ſervice, he deſpiſing the mandate neither came to do the ſervice, nor appeared to fine for it. He pleaded that the precept was not delivered, and that he held nothing of the king for which he ought to do that ſervice, upon which he was diſmiſſed. *Madox Hiſt. Exchq.* 461.

bot, and the abbot of the king at half a fee, and paid 20s. relief. In 1435 it was ſettled on Ralph Gunton, and his heirs. About 1510 it is ſaid to be in the heirs of John Botteram, of whom, in all probability, it was purchaſed by Chriſtopher Coote, eſq*. He died September 17, 1563, ſeiſed of Seymor's manor here. Richard Coote, his ſon and heir, was afterwards knighted, and lived to the age of 124 years. Sir Charles Coote, knt. and bart. who tranſlated himſelf and family into Ireland, where he was lieutenant in the time of Charles I. and was killed in 1642, was the laſt of the family that had this manor, it being joined to Broome-hall manor by the Bramptons, who purchaſed it, and ſo had all the manors, and the advowſon. Henry Brampton, and his father, Gaudy Brampton, lord in 1660, ſold the eſtate to Mr. Watts, an attorney in Norwich, of whom Mrs. Dorothy, his mother-in-law, and her ſecond huſband, purchaſed it. Mr. John Beſt purchaſed the eſtate of Mr. W. Watts, and gave it to Nathaniel Beſt, who was his ſon by a former wife; he is buried in Norton chancel: at his death he gave it to Mr. Robert Brown of Blow-Norton, lord and patron.

The leet belongs to the hundred, the leet-fee being 14d. The lord of the hundred is lord paramount, having waif and ſtray, view of frankpledge and free-warren, aſſize of bread and beer, &c. for when the lords

* Mr. Martin of Palgrave had the moſt beautiful pedigree of this family that we ever ſaw. Mr. Neve's collections relating to it are very large.—— It is ſaid that Sir Nicholas Coote, knt. who lived in queen Elizabeth's time, was a retainer of the duke of Norfolk's, and upon his cauſe happened to ſtrike the attorney general, for which he was fined 20,000l. and laid in priſon for it a long time, and at laſt was forced to ſell his eſtate to pay the fine, with the conſent of Sir Charles his ſon, who was created in the year 1660 earl of Montrath in Ireland.

lords of the ſeveral manors were forced by *quo warrantos* to produce their charters, and plead what liberties had been immemorially uſed, the lords here did not claim any.

The cuſtoms of the manors are theſe ;—the fines are at the lord's will. The copyhold deſcends to the youngeſt ſon; it gives no dower. The tenants cannot fell timber nor waſte the copyhold houſes without licence. In Broomehall manor every free tenant, upon purchaſe of any freehold, pays a year's free rent to the lord as a cuſtomary relief.

We don't find that the religious were much concerned here. The monks of Thetford's portion of tithes out of St. Andrew's was taxed at 10s. The prior of the canons of Thetford in 1428 was taxed 12d. for his temporalities here; the prior of Ixworth 2s. 6d. and the prior of Buckenham 14s.

The church of St. Margaret had rectors until 1348, after which it lay without any inſtitution until 1394, when Robert de Brom the patron obtained a perpetual union of it to the church of St. Andrew, upon proving to the biſhop that the revenues were ſo ſmall that nobody would accept it, and it appearing that the church was much decayed both in its roof and walls, and the pariſhioners very poor and unable to repair it, and that St. Andrew's church ſtanding cloſe by it, in the ſame church-yard, was big enough to hold all the pariſhioners of both, he licenſed them to pull down St. Margaret's church, May 13. 1394, upon which it was levelled to the ground, in ſuch a manner that at this day there appears no remains of any ſuch place. When Sir Roger de Brom was patron, Norwich Doomſday ſaith, that it had a houſe and ten acres of glebe; it then paid 12d. ſynodals, and 2s. 2d. procurations;

procurations; from this time each manor had an alternate preſentation to St. Andrew's in Blo-norton, which before belonged ſolely to Semere manor. When Sir John Dykele was patron the rector had eleven acres of glebe, but no houſe, and paid 12d. ſynodals, and 4s. procurations. The firſt rector we meet with was about 1320.

From the evidences and annals of Caius college, in Cambridge, we learn that Sir Stephen Smith, rector here, July 3, 1430, gave all his lands and tenements in Barningham, in Suffolk, for the maintenance of a fellow to be a prieſt, to perform divine offices for the dead in that college, and to preach thrice every year at Barningham, viz. on St. Margaret's day, in Advent, and in Lent, and in his ſermons to make mention of him, his benefactor, and that he ſhould be called Stephen Smith's prieſt. The lands given then were 4l. per ann. and in Dr. Caius' time 5l. he is the fifth ſenior fellow on the foundation. The eſtate now conſiſts of a convenient farm-houſe and ſeventy acres of paſture, twenty-four acres and three roods of arable, all well wooded, the money rent being 8l. 6s. 8d. the corn rent two quarters and an half of wheat, and three quarters three buſhels of malt.

In 1762 the Rev. Charles Browne preſented himſelf to the rectory of Norton, *alias* Blo-Norton St. Andrew and St. Margaret.

This rectory is valued at 5l. 6s. 8d. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 38l. 5s. is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths. There is a rectory houſe and twenty-five acres of glebe. Here was a guild dedicated to St. Peter.

The church is a mean fabric of one aile only, which is thatched, as is the chancel, the north porch is tiled, the tower is ſquare and hath in it three bells.

There is no inſcription in the nave, this being now loſt:—*Orate pro anima Margarate Coote, generoſe que ob. x° die menſ. Sept. A°. Dni.* 1521. At the entrance of the chancel lies a ſtone robbed of its braſſes, which had an inſcription to Thomas Garneys, eſq. and Alice his wife. He died Aug. 1, 1544, with his arms.—Another hath Stede impaling Brome, robbed of its inſcription. John Stede eſq. who died Dec. 20, 1540.

Another ſtone was laid over a prieſt, the cup and wafer, the emblems of the prieſthood, ſtill remaining.

On three braſs plates upon a ſtone at the north-eaſt corner of the chancel, Brampton quartering Broome, impaling Rookwood. Here lieth interred Thomas Brampton, eſquier, who deceaſſed the IX daye of November, in the yere of our God MCCCCCLXXVI.

At the upper end of the chancel, on the ſouth ſide, was a raiſed tomb covered with a marble, under which Mr. Chriſtopher Coote, who died in 1563, was interred; this is now taken down, and the ſtone laid on the pavement.

The houſe right over againſt the church is called the Place, which name it aſſumed when it was rebuilt by John Brampton, eſq. its old name being Broome-Hall.

In the kitchen window (before it was repaired) we ſaw the arms of Broome, Calthorpe, and Stede.

"*Love and Grace dwelle in this Place.*"

William

William Calthorpe married Cecily Broome, and was owner of an eſtate here in 1596.

The arms of Stede were imperfect, and there was alſo an imperfect coat of Brampton.

In 1603 there were 110 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are thirty-two houſes and 160 Inhabitants. It paid 50s. to the old tenth, and now is aſſeſſed at 66ol. to the land-tax.

Here is about one rood of land, which lies at Furze common, a houſe being lately pulled down there, and another rebuilt, more convenient, for two dwellers on the waſte, which hath about a rood of land laid to it.

The commons are called New-croſs, which contains about ten acres, Furze common about thirty acres, ſouth fen about thirty acres, and there are about eighty acres of common carr and fen, on all which they common ſolely.

GARBOLDISHAM, Garboldesham, Gerrodes, or Gerbold's-Town, is ſo called from ſome Saxon who was owner of it, *ham* in their language ſignifying a houſe, or village; it is bounded by the Lophams, and Kenninghall, on the eaſt; by Market-Harling, north; and by Weſt Harling, and Gaſthorpe, weſt: it contained ſeveral manors, all which were united in Thomas duke of Norfolk in the time of Henry VIII. and continue ſo to this day; the biggeſt manor was called Wica, afterwards Wykes, now Wicken; the common, called Wicken Ling, is the only memorial now remaining of that name.

The capital manor in the year 1045 belonged to the abbey of Ely, Wilfric, the 6th abbot of that houſe,

being lord of it. This abbot had a brother, called Gudmund, who propoſing marriage to a nobleman's daughter, was refuſed; becauſe, though he was of noble extraction, yet not having forty hides of land, he could have no place among the noblemen; the abbot to ſupply this, *privately* makes over to him theſe manors belonging to his abbey, *ſc.* Garboldiſham, Marham, Lyvermere, Nachentun, Acholt, &c. the monks reclaim them, the abbot retires to Acholt, and there dies with grief, and is buried at Ely. Thurſtan, his ſucceſſor, proſecuted the claim, and came to this agreement, that Gudmund ſhould enjoy them for life; in the mean time the Normans invaded the land, and Hugh de Montfort, or Monte-forti, a valiant Norman, who came in with the Conqueror, (to whom he was ſome time ſtandard-bearer) ſeized thoſe lands, and kept them from the church.

Montfort's Manor in the Confeſſor's time was worth 3l. and in the Conqueror's 6l. per ann. The whole town, with all its manors, was a league long, and a league broad, and out of every 20s. Dane-gelt laid upon this hundred, this town paid 34d. ob.

Hugh de Montfort loſt his life in a duel with Walcheline de Ferrers, leaving iſſue, Hugh, his ſon, who by his firſt wife had iſſue Robert and Hugh; which Robert was William Rufus's general in 1098, but favoring the title of Robert Curthoſe, in oppoſition to Henry I. he was called in queſtion for infidelity, whereupon, being conſcious of his guilt, he got leave to go to Jeruſalem, and left all his poſſeſſions to the king; they both died in pilgrimage, without iſſue.

This Hugh granted the manor to William de Francheville, whoſe ſon, William, in 1179, confirmed

two

two parts of the tithes of the demeſnes of his manor of Wikes, or Garboldiſham, Langford, Bodney, and Naſton, to the monks of Bermondeſey, in Surrey, to whom the ſaid Hugh de Montfort had given them; this portion was iſſuing out of St. John Baptiſt's church, the moiety of which advowſon belonged to this manor; and in 1428 the prior was taxed for his ſpirituals here at 13s. 4d. William, his ſon, in 1240 married Freſchentia, daughter and heireſs of Ralph de Banham.

In 1240 the manor was charged with an annual rent charge of five marks, payable to Laurence de Boyton, and his heirs, which in 1250 was confirmed by Ralph de Francheville, then lord, to Lauretta de Boyton, together with the manor of Langford, to be held of Ralph, and his heirs, by the ſervice of two pair of white gloves, and one penny, yearly.

Ralph was ſucceeded by Robert, his ſon, who ſold it to Robert de Cantelupe; he covenanted to pay ſix marks yearly out of it to the ſaid Robert Francheville, and his heirs, ſo that there were now in two annuities eleven marks iſſuing out of it; and immediately after it was conveyed to him he agreed with William de Banham that he ſhould preſent to St. John's one turn, in right of his manor, called Eſcois, and the ſaid Robert the other turn, in right of his manor, late Francheville's, which was ſettled accordingly by fine; and thus this advowſon continued till 1280, when it was ſold by Robert de Buckenham (who had got the whole right of preſentation by purchaſing the turn from this manor) to ſir Robert de Boſco, and his heirs, from which time both the advowſons went with their manors: in this, or the next year, John de Cantelupe, ſon of Robert, ſold it to William de Pakenham; he was afterwards knighted, and became

juſtice itinerant; he made great purchaſes in this town.

Albred, or Aubrey de Pakenham, in 1345 paid 20s. relief for half a fee, which he then held of the earl Marſhal; and in 1421 part of the manor was held by knight's ſervice of John de Haſtings, earl of Pembroke. In his, and his father's time, many of the demeſne lands were granted off, and certain barley rents reſerved, to be paid from them.

Robert Pakenham, of Shropham, eſq. inherited, and died ſeiſed of this, and Verly's manor, in Snettiſham, and a manor in Shropham, Snitterton, and the adjacent towns, in 1463. Henry Pakenham, his ſon and heir, died ſeiſed without iſſue male, leaving Ann, one of his daughters and heireſſes: we cannot ſay how many heireſſes there were, but this Ann married John Dobbes, or Dowbes, of Garboldiſham, eſq. who purchaſed all the parts; for in 1526 he was ſole lord of Pakenham's manor: he left one only daughter, Ann, who married ſir William Barwick; he was knighted by James I. at Whitehall, May 30, 1604; he jointly with his wife, and John Mallowes, of Bury, in Suffolk, gent. Thomas Traverſe, late of Laſt Harling, gent. and Edward Barwick, gent. brother to ſir William, ſold it in 1607 to ſir John Holland, of Kenninghall, and ſir Thomas Holland, his ſon, in truſt for the earl of Arundel.

The ſcite of the manor was dilapidated, and contained five acres; to it belonged large demeſnes, divers heriots, free rents, and rents of aſſize, barley rents, and a fold-courſe, called Pakenham's-Tripp.

By this purchaſe the Norfolk family became ſole lords of all the manors in this town, though they had not

not the advowſon, and ſo continued till 1627, and then the earl of Arundel, and his truſtees, ſold the demeſne lands of this manor, and its fold-courſe for three hundred ſheep, and their followers, in Garboldiſham, and Kenninghall, and all the barley rents, to Framlingham Gaudy, eſq. of Weſt Harling, and his heirs, the waifs, ſtrays, and all other royalties, together with all the free rents, and waſtes, being particularly excepted, to the earl and his heirs. In 1629 the ſaid earl ſold the manor of Pakenham-hall (Uphall, Wiggenhall, and Buckenham's being included in it) to ſir Drue Drury, of Riddleſworth, who kept his firſt court immediately after the conveyance, the ſaid earl charging it with the whole ſum of 10l. a year rent charge, which now iſſued out of this and the other manors that were joined to it, and obliged ſir Drue to give ſecurity to Framlingham Gaudy, eſq. to indemnify him and his heirs againſt any claim that ſhould be made for any part of the 10l. out of the ſaid demeſnes, ſold courſe, or barley rents, which were conveyed to the ſaid Framlingham. After ſir Drue's death it went to ſir Drue, his ſon, then to ſir Robert Drury, bart. who left it to his wife, lady Drury.

The leet belongs to the hundred; the leet-fee is 5s. the caſtle-ward was 12d. every ſeven weeks.

In 1609 the rents of aſſize of all the manors were 22l. 8s. 3q. It extended into North Lopham, Gaſthorpe, Shropham, and Blo-Norton.

The barley-rents being ſold to Framlingham Gaudy, as aforeſaid, he in 1629 ſold off forty coombs, three buſhels, two pecks and an half to Richard Peade, of Bury St. Edmund's, gent. Thomas Warren, of Great Thurlow, and John Warren, gent. of

Garboldisham, his son and heir, which issued out of divers lands formerly held by the Cootes, Barwicks, Tillots, &c. The rest of them being recovered by decree in chancery, (some of the tenants refusing to pay them) continued in the Gaudys, until Sir Basingbourne Gaudy, the last of that name, or his executors, sold them to Robert Haylet of Garboldisham, gent. who had lately sold every one their parts; the whole sum at first was fifty-one quarters, six bushels, and half, issuing out of the demesne lands of Wiggen-hall's, Bokenham's, and Pakenham's manors, which lay dispersedly among the tenants lands, for which reason the lords demised them to such as kept ploughs for maintenance of their tilth, some at two bushells an acre, and some at three, some at more and some at less, according to the goodness of the land. The rent charge of 10l. a year issued out of the manors of Pakenham and Wiggenhall; in 1288, John de Wiggenhale acknowledged that he ought to pay five marks, 2s. 2d. per ann. out of his manor, to Nicholas Weyland, of whom he held it at the third part of two fees, and it appears, that the said Nicholas had the other annuities issuing out of Pakenham's manor settled upon him, for in 1290 he was seised of 10l. rent, issuing out of the manors of Garboldisham, from which time it had passed continually with the manor of Oxborough, from the Weylands to the Tuddenhams, and from them to the Bedingfields, Sir Richard Bedingfield, bart. of Oxborough, being now possessed of it.

Bois's, *alias* Uthall Manor, was held by Aluric, a freeman, in the time of the Confessor, but was seized by the Conqueror into his own hands, and by him committed to earl Godric's care; this is the only part that in Doomsday is called Gerboldesham; it was valued in the first survey at 30s. and in the second

at

at 10s. It was granted from the crown to Hugh Bigot, earl of Norfolk, and paſſed from that family, along with Fersfield, to Sir William du Bois, knt. from which time it went exactly as Fersfield did, to which we refer our readers.

To this manor the advowſon of Garboldiſham All Saints wholly belonged; and in 1280 St. John's advowſon was joined to it, being purchaſed by ſir Robert de Boſco, as is before obſerved, both which continued with it until 1533, when the manor came by exchange to the duke of Norfolk, (the advowſon being excepted): it was always held of the Norfolk family at one fee, its relief being 40s. and in 1246 Sir Robert de Bois, then lord, had theſe privileges allowed him to this manor, viz. a weekly market every Wedneſday, a yearly fair for three days, on the vigil, the day, and the day after St. Luke the Evangeliſt, a pillory, tumbrell, or ducking-ſtool, with liberty of free-warren, it being obliged to do ſuit to the hundred court, or pay 2s. a year.

The manors of Wiggen-hall and Buckenham were both joined to this before 1386, for then the ſtiles of the court was Uphall, Wiggen-hall, and Bokenham's, in Garboldiſham, and thus they continued until 1607, and then were joined to Pakenham's, the earl of Arundel becoming lord of the whole remained ſo until 1627, when he ſold Uphall, Wiggenhall, and Pakenham's demeſnes, with the ſcites of all thoſe manors, their barley-rents, and fold-courſes for 350 ewes with their followers, with all the paſtures and ſhackages belonging to that courſe in Garboldiſham (all royalties, waiſs, ſtrays, and money-rents being excepted, all which the earl ſtill kept whole and undivided, until he ſold them in 1629 to Sir Drue Drury, of Riddleſworth) to Framlingham Gaudy, eſq. in which

which family they continued until September 14, 1666, and then Sir William Gaudy, of Weft-Harling, fettled all his eftate on Mary, his only daughter, to raife 2000l. for her fortune, and made Framlingham Gaudy, efq. (her uncle) executor, who fold the Garboldifham lands to Wentworth Garneys, efq. of Boyland-hall, in Mourning-thorpe, the heirs of whofe family enjoyed it.

Wiggen-Hall's Manor, at the furvey, belonged to bifhop Odborn, and was valued at 20s. in the Confeffor's, but was rifen to 50s. at the Conqueror's time, when it was in Kenninghall foken.

This afterwards belonged to the Bigots, by whom it was granted to the Heveninghams, of which family it was always held by the third part of a fee, of Echam-parva manor, in Eflex, as parcel of the barony of Tofhunt, of the honor of Hakenet, the relief being 8s. 4d.

In the time of Richard I. John de Jerpenville was lord, and made a grant to John de Garbaudifham and his heirs, as appears under Garboldefham's free tenement; it after came to the Wiggenhalls, but how we do not find, though imagine it muft be from the Weylands, for John de Wiggenhale held it of Sir Nicholas Weyland by the fervice of a rent charge of five marks a year, payable to him and his heirs.—In 1345 Agnes de Wiggenhale had it, after which it foon fell into Bois's manor.

Rice's and Buckenham's manors belonged to William de Warren, earl of Surrey, in the Conqueror's time, and had two carucates in demefne, then worth 40s. it being given him by the Conqueror as one carucate, the whole of which was then in Kenninghall foken;

ſoken; after he had it, it was annexed to the caſtle of Lewes: this was afterwards divided into two manors.

Escois's Manor, which was the firſt part, was held of the Munchenſies, by the family ſurnamed de Banham, the Munchenſies had it of the Bigots, they of the Eſcois's, and they of the earl Warren; Ralph de Banham had them, whoſe only daughter, Freſchentia, in 1240, was married to William de Francheville, lord of Pakenham's manor, to which this part was then joined, as was a moiety of St. John's advowſon, which belonged to it, though the Banham family ſtill continued to have a free tenement and many rents here, which was granted by this William, out of the fortune that Freſchentia brought him.

Buckenham's Manor was the ſecond part, and was given by Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, with Adeliza his daughter, to Aubrey de Vere, ſecond earl of Oxford, of whoſe family it was held at half a fee, and the eighth part of a fee: a part was after held of Tateſhale's barony, and another ſmall part of Munchenſie's. Emma, an heireſs, brought it to Ralph de Chadeſgrave; to the manor belonged a moiety of St. John's advowſon. In 1277 Peter de Buckenham was lord, he left it to Robert, his ſon, to whom in 1284 the ſaid Ralph de Chadeſgrave, and Emma his wife, releaſed all their right, and in 1286 he had waif allowed to this manor, and the moiety of St. John's, the whole advowſon of which he ſold in 1280, to ſir Robert de Boſco, having purchaſed the parts that belonged to Pakenham's, and Eſcois's manors. Leonard de Buckenham was lord in 1380, in whoſe time it was joined to Bois's manor, for in the fœdaries in 1402, we find that the lady Margaret Howard held the third part of a fee, which Leonard

Buckenham

Buckenham held, but though this family parted from the manor, their defcendants continued to have a good eſtate here, and ſome ſmall free rents belonging to it. In 1476 Sir Ralph Buckenham, of Garboldiſham, deſired in his will to be buried in St. Peter's Church, of Great Livermere, in Suffolk.

CHURCHES MANOR, or FREE-TENEMENT, took its name from its owners, who were ſo called from living near the church of this town. At the ſurvey it was part of Montfort's, or Pakenham's manor, and ſo continued until it was granted from it by the Francheville's to *Hugh at the Churche* of Garbaudeſham, who is the firſt that we meet with of this family, but there being no date to the deed we cannot aſcertain the time; in 1290 it belonged to *Gilbert at the Church*, from 1532 we meet with no more of it until 1540, and then Richard Lothewyk had it, but the rents were now ſold off, the rental being only 5s. 9d. per ann. We meet with no more of it afterwards, ſo that it ſhews as if thoſe rents were either ſold off, or the lands purchaſed to the tenement, one of which was generally the end of theſe ſmall manors. The pariſh of St. John held three roods of land at Hobbyn's Mill, near St. John's rectory-houſe, by the free-rent of 2d. a year, and the town of Garboldiſham held a meſſuage, called the Camping-Lond, by the free-rent of 6d. a year.

GARBOLDISHAM'S FREE-TENEMENT had its riſe in the time of Richard I. it being till then part of Wiggen-Hall's manor, which John de Jerpenville, Lord thereof, granted to Robert de Gerbaudeſham, for his homage and ſervice and 8s. 6d. a year rent, and 4d. ſq. a year ward money to Dover Caſtle, and 12d. ſq. feutage, out of every 20s. that ſhould be laid upon Jerpenville's manor of Garboldiſham, and

and other property; and in conſideration of this grant, John, ſon of Robert de Garboldiſham, was to marry Maud, daughter of Thomas de Ravenyngham. This family of Garboldiſham was very numerous, though we do not imagine that all of them were Lords of this tenement.

From this family it paſſed to the Moncks, another numerous family in this town, ſo named from Alan Le-Moyne, or the Monk, who had lands here very early, as ſeveral deeds without date ſhew. In 1290, William Le-Monck, of Garboldiſham, had a meſſuage and ten acres ſettled on him.

In 1328, William de Banham releaſed all his right to Richard Le-Monck, in all his poſſeſſions in Garboldiſham, ſo that now he had both the free tenements, but how they went after we do not find, though the family continued ſomewhat longer in the town.

Banham's Free Tenement had its riſe out of Eſcois manor, ſince 1240, and conſiſted of ſeveral lands and rents of that manor, granted by William de Francheville to the Banham family, after he had married Freſchentia, the heireſs of Ralph de Banham, and in this family it continued till 1328, when William de Banham, releaſed it to Richard Le-Monck, Robert de Banham his father, having ſold, or mortgaged it before, to John Le-Monck, father of Richard, by which releaſe it fell into Monck's tenement.

Of Hopton's Tenement we know but little, only find it often named in evidences, and that Adam de Hopton, lord of it in 1268, was diſſeiſed by John de Dicklebugh of his common of paſture in Bio-Norton,

Norton, which belonged to his free tenement in Garboldisham.

The customs of the manor are these: the copyhold descends to the eldest son, the fine is at the lord's will; the tenants can fell timber on the copyhold, plant, and cut down on the waste, without licence; it gives no dower, it hath liberty of free-warren, waif, stray, and all other privileges, except the leet, return of writs, office of coroner, clerk of the market†, and assize of bread and ale, all which were excepted when it was sold to Sir Drue Drury, who after his purchase sold off his part of the demesnes, and settled the rent charge of 10l. per ann. upon that part, from which it is now paid by the owner of Uphall, in Garboldisham, who hath the demesnes of the several manors, except those of Buckenham's manor, which belonged to the late Sir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldisham, Bart. but now to Crisp Molineux, Esq.

The Rectory Manor belonged to the rectors of St. John's, who were always lords of it. The customs are the same as the great manor.

Of the advowson.—The advowson of All Saints wholly belonged to Bois's, or Uphall manor, and that of St. John's was purchased to it in 1280 by sir Robert de Bois, from which time they both passed with it, till 1553, and then being parted, went as Fersfield advowson did till 1632, and then that advowson, or rather moiety of both advowsons, that belonged to sir Thomas Cornwallis, knt. came to sir William Withipoll, knt. and in 1637 Lucy Withipoll, and Thomas Clere, presented by his

† The market and fair have been disused for some time.

his grant; at his death it went to Elizabeth Wichipoll, his heirefs, who married Leiceſter Devereux, viſcount Hereford; he was ſucceeded by Leiceſter, his ſon and heir, who died in 1652, and was ſucceeded by Edward Devereux, who died iſſueleſs in 1700, leaving Ann, his ſiſter, his ſole heireſs; ſhe married Leiceſter Martin, eſq. of Chriſt-church, in Ipſwich, who ſold it to the late ſir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldiſham, bart.

The other advowſon, or moiety of both the advowſons, belonged to the Wingfields, and paſſed as Fersfield, from the Wingfields to the earl of Rochford, the right honorable William Henry Naſſau de Zuleſtein, earl of Rochford, being now patron.

The religious concerned here were, Thetford, Bermondeſey, and Camps, to whom Robert Aſhfield aliened lands in 1391; and in 1581 John Plais, and others, aliened lands and tenements here of 40l. value to the chantry at Raveningham.

There were ſeveral ancient good families inhabiting in this town, beſides thoſe already mentioned; one was ſirnamed Atte Stone, of Garboldiſham; another de Ponte, or Atte Brigge; another le Woodward, which family hath continued to this time.

The Taſeburghs had a good eſtate here, of which John Taſeburgh, gent. was owner in 1540.

The names of the ſtreets in 1413 were, Wykyn-ſtreet, Nethergate-ſtreet, and Churchegate-ſtreet, and there is a way much ſpoken of, called the Palmer's-Way; we ſuppoſe it is that which leads from Gaſthorpe-gate, by which the pilgrims uſed to paſs in pilgrimage to our Lady at Walſingham; there is alſo

alſo a large ditch, commonly called Little Devil's Ditch, which runs from Gaſthorpe-Moor to Harling-Moor, and is ſaid to have been an ancient intrenchment, but by the proper name we take it to have been made to divide Garboldiſham from its neighbouring pariſhes, as it ſtill does, it being called the *Boundary*.

After the diſſolution divers ſmall pieces of land ſettled to ſuperſtitious uſes, as for *obijts*, lamps, &c. were granted to divers perſons.

The church of St. John Baptiſt is a good building, having the nave, two ailes, with the chapels at their eaſt ends, north veſtry, and north porch, leaded, its chancel thatched, a tall ſquare tower, and ſix bells. The church, ailes, and chancel, are ancient, but the tower and north porch are not ſo, being built about 1500, as is evident from the name of William Pece, who was then a chaplain in this church, and chief benefactor to the work.

On the tower are the names of ſeveral other benefactors.

There is only one braſs plate left, which is inſcribed to—*John Carlton, of Garboldiſham, mercer, who died the third of April*, 1579.

In the eaſt chancel window are the arms of Bardolph, Howard, and Scales; and three knights kneeling, one in a ſurcoat of Howard, another of Scales, and another of Bardolph, which were very remarkable, and were lately deſtroyed, with many other arms and antiquities, when the windows were repaired.

In

In the windows of the north aile were the arms of Bois, Howard, Cornwal, and Felbrigg.

In a fouth chancel window, Howard and Scales, impaled.

In the windows of the ailes, Brotherton, Howard, and Plais; Howard, impaling, per pale indented or. and gul. a bordure of the fecond, bezante; Felbrigg impaling Scales.

The Bois' arms are in many windows; at the eaft end of the north aile is a chapel, which belonged to that family, in which there was an officiating chaplain for the dead, and probably another in the oppofite chapel, in the fouth aile: the names of fome of them that ferved here, and in Bois's chapel in All Saints church, Mr. Blomefield extracted out of evidences of lands in this town.

Towards the weft end of the church-yard are two altar-tombs, inferibed—*To John Williamfon, gent. obijt March* 2, 1690, *ætatis fuæ* 32.—

Maria Williamfon, obijt Auguft 22, 1697, *ætatis fuæ* 22.

The fcite of the rectory houfe joined to the eaft end of this church-yard till a new one was built, near a quarter of a mile north-eaft of the church.

All Saints church ftands north of St. John's, about half a furlong, or fomewhat more, and was officiated in till the death of Mr. Vilet, in 1726; from which time fervice was left off by degrees, and upon a petition of the patrons, incumbent, and parifhioners, in 1734, licence was obtained of the bifhop to fuffer

it to dilapidate; upon which the roof of the nave was unthatched, and that of the north aile unleaded, and both were taken down, the font and ſeats pulled up, and the five bells taken down, all which, with the other materials, (except the leaſt bell, which was carried to St. John's) were ſold, and the money applied to repair and beautify St. John's church. The bodies of the Bacons, buried in the chancel, were taken up, and carried to a vault belonging to that family in Redgrave church, and the marbles that laid over them were removed, and placed in the veſtry of St. John's church, where they now lie. The windows both of the nave and aile were chiefly painted glaſs, and very well done, but were all broken to pieces; the roof of the nave was board, painted all over with the names of Jeſus and Mary, and this in the midſt:

Betwex ſyn yis and
Ye rode loff, ye yongling
Han payd for yis coſt.
Ya tLord yat deyid for alle mankynde
Have mercy upon hem at her ende.

By which it appears that it was done at the charge of the pariſhioners, ſoon after 1450, and that John de de Vere, earl of Oxford, who was then patron, would not aſſiſt them, for he muſt be the *youngling* here mean't; and indeed it ſeems as if he deſigned to have had this church (when he conſolidated it to St. John's) fall down, it being then much in decay, as is plain from the great repairs then done to it, the pariſhioners not conſenting to it, but, on the contrary, ſhewed their diſlike by theſe verſes, which it will not be amiſs to render into more modern language:

" Between

" Between this place and the rood loft*,
" The youngling han't paid for this coft,
" That Lord that died for all mankind,
" Have mercy upon them† at their end."

The roof of the chancel alfo at that time was repaired, and becaufe it fhould not be too burdenfome to the rector, many pious people contributed, as is apparent from thefe two verfes ftill remaining on it:

Alle alle hevir holpe to yis good deed
God fend hyer fowle helpe to hyer mede.

All, all, [that] ever helped to this good deed,
God fend their foul help for their mede.‡

The cancelli, or lattices, between the church and chancel, were erected about the fame time, being neatly carved and adorned with the images of St. Mary Magdalen, St. German, St. Agnes, and others, and were made at the expence of William Bole.

The windows alfo were new glazed, all of painted glafs, and adorned, fome of them with the twelve apoftles, others with faints and confeffors, others with the arms of the benefactors at whofe coft they were put up, and others with their effigies kneeling, by which it appears that fome were made at one perfon's coft only, others by three or four that joined, and in moft of them were the donors names, all which were decayed, except two in the north aile windows.

* The rood-loft was placed between the church and chancel, fo called becaufe the rood, or crofs, always ftood on it.

† Them, refers to the parifhioners that were at the charge of the work.

‡ Gift.

On a ſouth window, Lucy's arms, impaling gul. a feſs and label of three, or.

At the eaſt end of the aile was a chapel, which hath laid in ruins many years; it was founded by Thomas de Boſco, rector of this church, for his own interment, the initial letters of whoſe name ſtill remain, carved in ſtone, on its buttreſs. The entrance out of the aile was by a large croſs arch.

There is a good ſquare tower at the weſt end, built much about that time, and, as tradition hath it, in this manner: the foundation was laid by a *tailor*, continued by a *woolcomber*, and finiſhed by the pariſh. Now we do not pretend to aver its truth, but mention it, becauſe, agreeable thereto, we find a a ſtone fixed in the building, about ten feet from the ground, on which is cut a large pair of tailor's ſhears, and on another, about ten feet higher, is a woolcomb.

The church is almoſt whole as to its walls; the roofs ſtill remain on the chancel and ſouth porch, though great part of the thatch is gone; the doors are taken off; the grave-ſtones ſtill lie in their places, ſome of which had braſſes formerly on them, but they were loſt long before the church was ruined.

On two black marbles that were in the chancel, but now removed to St. John's as aforeſaid, Bacon, impaling a feſs wavy, between three delis's.—*Under this marble is buried the body of ſir Robert Bacon, bart. who departed this life on the 31ſt of June, in the year of our Lord* 1704.

Here lieth interred the body of Mrs. Jane Bacon, the eldeſt daughter of ſir Robert Bacon, and dame Elizabeth, his

his wife, (that was buried at Wighton in this county) who died on the 14th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1705.—This is joined to the fouth fide of the former, and hath Bacon's arms in a lozenge.

Sir Edmund Bacon, premier baronet of all England, elected knight of the fhire for the county of Norfolk in the great contefted election in 1734, refided in this parifh, which houfe, with the eftate here, devolved to his daughter, Mifs Bacon, who fold it to Criſp Molineux, efq. who at prefent refides here, and is patron of the living.

Sir William Barwick, who died after 1607, is faid to be buried here, but we are not certain of it.

In 1450 John de Vere, earl of Oxford, lord Bulbec, Samford and Scales, chamberlain and admiral of England, and Mr. John Halle, rector of St. John's, petitioned for a conſolidation, ſetting forth, "That "the churches were ſo near, that they might be con- "veniently ſerved by one rector, and that both, "when joined, would maintain a rector, but were "not ſufficient to do ſo ſingle; and beſides, the "tithes were ſo mixed that they cauſed diſputes on "all ſides, and the clergy ſo thin, by reaſon of the "great plague, that it was difficult to procure a "clerk, upon which it was agreed, that a conſolida- "tion ſhould paſs upon the following terms, viz. "That the church of St. John Baptiſt be henceforward the principal and mother church, for all ſa- "craments, for all the pariſhioners, and that the rec- "tors ſhall be obliged to keep up only the rectory- "houſe of St. John's, but ſhould be ſtrictly forced "to keep up both the chancels, and by himſelf, or a "ſtipendiary curate, have ſervice performed duly eve- "ry week in All Saints church." This was tranſacted

in the collegiate church of the Virgin Mary in the Fields, at Norwich, Feb. 25, 1450, by John Wygenhale, doctor of the decrees, commiſſary, and vicar general.

In 1478, Aug. 12, Edmund Albon, doctor of phyſic, and of *all* the liberal arts, was inſtituted to the church of Garboldiſham, St. John Baptiſt, together with the church of All Saints annexed.

In 1726, May 31, the late Rev. Henry Stebbing was inſtituted on the preſentation of the late ſir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldiſham, bart. he was doctor of divinity, archdeacon of Wilts, chaplain in ordinary to his majeſty, rector of Rickinghall Inferior, in Suffolk, preacher to the honorable ſociety of Gray's Inn, lecturer of Bow-church, Cheapſide, London, author of the book, intitled Polemical Tracts, in folio, and of ſeveral other ingenious pieces.

Dr. Stebbing built the parſonage-houſe, where it now ſtands, in a pleaſant ſituation.

In 1748 ſir Edward Bacon preſented William Robinſon; and in 1774 Charles Wake was preſented by Criſp Molineux, eſq. repreſentative in parliament for Lynn Regis; who in 1777 preſented the Rev. Charles Sherard Molineux to the rectory of Garboldiſham St. John, with All Saints, conſolidated Feb. 25, 1450.

This rectory is ſtill charged with firſt-fruits and tenths, and rated in the king's books at 19l. 16s. ob.

A penſion of 6s. 8d. is now paid to the duke of Norfolk, in right of the priory of Thetford, it being a perpetual compoſition for the tithes of the demeſnes

of

of Ralph de Banham, lord of Eſcois manor, who gave his tithes to that priory.

The following curious will was in Mr. Blomefield's cuſtody:—In 1531, May 1, W. Keye, of Garboldiſham, was buried in St. John's church-yard; he gave "To the hye auter iijs. iiijd. Item, to the leddinge of St. John Baptiſt's cherche, whane they begyne to remove the leede, xiijs. iiijd. Item, to the gyldyng of the new candil bem in the cherche of All Seynts, vjs. iiijd. Item, to our ladyes fryrys in Norwich, to be prayed for, half a trental, vs. Item, to the fryres at Babwell, iijs. iiijd. Item, to eche hows of fryres in Thetford, to be prayed for, iijs. iiijd. Item, to the nunys in the ſame town, ijs. Item, to an abil preeſt to ſynge Divine ſervice for my ſowle, and the ſowlys of all my good frendes, by the ſpace of an hoole yere in St. John Baptiſt's cherche, viij marks, that is to ſay, half a yere after my diſceſſe, and thensforth every year, a quarter, 'till the ſeid hoole yere be complete. Item, I gif half an acr of lond, lying in Lopham furlong, to find yerely evermore, v. gawdyes brennyng before our lady, in the chancel of St. John Baptiſt; at every antiphon of our lady, and at every feſte of our lady, at maeſſe of the ſame feſte, evermore: Howbeit, I will that whoſoever ſhall hold my place and londes, ſhall have the occupacon of the ſaid lond, and the keepyng of the ſaid v. gawdyes, and they onys to be renewed in every yere. Item, I will have my *obijt* day kept yearly after my deceſſe, for v. yeres, at which *obijt* I will my executors brewe ij combe of malte, and bake v. buſhell of whete, and [buy] cheſe to the value of iijs. Item, I give half an acr at Medeldred-Hegge, half an acr and half an rood at Copydthorn; j. acre j. rood at Dyche's-end, half an

" acre in Botonys. j. acre and half at Stanyell, j. " Acre at Nethir-Red-Hegge, the whiche londes I " have, and hold, at the bequeſt of ſir William " Pece, preeſt, to give to a brothir of the ordir of " preachers in Thetford, to ſey a ſermon yerely ever- " more, on Tueſday in Eſtern-week, and to ſynge " meſſe of requiem in the churche of St. John of " Garboldeſham ; and to the parſon and his depute, " which is, and ſhall be for the time, to ſay dirige " iiijd. Item, I gilf iij. rodes of medewe, j. rod by " the lond of Will. Curſon, preeſt, and j. rod and " half by the lond of the counteſs of Oxforth, eſt, " and iiij. roods, and half an acre, for the entent to " have always on Monday in Eaſtern-week aforeſaid " vj. buſhels of malte brewed, and iij buſhels of " whete baken, and ijs. in cheſe, to the relief and " comfort of the pariſhioners of Garbelſham, there " being a dirige on the ſaid Monday, to pray for my " ſowle, and the ſowles of all my good frends, and to " the fryer iiijd. to remembyr me in his meſſe." He gave his capital tenement to Alice, his wife, for life, then to be ſold, and the money to find a prieſt to ſing a quarter in each year, till eight quarters be ended, and the reſt to repair and buy ornaments for St. John's church, his wife and John Woodward being executors; Leonard Rychardſon, and William Curſon, prieſts, witneſſes. Proved at Attleburgh, May 19, 1383. Theſe lands ſtill are in the hands of the pariſh.

Here is a town-houſe purchaſed with Mrs. Williamſon's money, inhabited by three or four poor families.

The town lands are lett at about 22l. per ann. and lie in Lopham, Norton, and Garboldiſham.

This

This town is now (Blomefield) aſſeſſed at 97l. 9s. There are about eighty dwelling-houſes, and 400 inhabitants.

Gasthorpe, or Gatesthorpe, is a ſmall village, known by travellers by the name of Gaſthorpe-gate, which is a public-houſe, that hath a gate for its ſign, contrived at firſt from the name of the town. It ſtands on a great road, which croſſes the river here: It ſeems to take its name from ſome owner of it, Gade's Dorp, or Gateſthorp, ſignifying the village, or manſion, of ſome one of that name.

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and is a rectory, diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths. It hath no parſonage houſe, but there are 30 acres of glebe.

It is charged in the king's books 6l. 9s. 4d. ob. The annual value, with Riddleſworth, is 48l. 9s. 1d. 3q.

The advowſon belonged to the prior of the monks at Thetford, who always preſented till the diſſolution, unleſs in caſes of lapſe, or when that priory was in the king's hands as an alien.

In 1681, June 30, Thomas Barnes, A. M. was preſented by ſir Robert Drury, bart. he was inſtituted to Riddleſworth the ſame day, and held them by union till the 9th of December following, and then he obtained a perpetual conſolidation.

In 1767 the Rev. Charles Wake was preſented to the united rectory by lady Sarah Wake, widow of the late ſir William Wake, bart.

The

The church ſtands alone on a hill, it is a very mean building, of one aile only, and a chancel, both which are thatched, the tower is ſquare, having only two bells, a third being ſold in 1607 to repair the church; there is not one inſcription, nor any thing elſe remarkable. except ſeveral very ancient coffin ſtones with croſſes upon them, which were laid over ſome of the rectors, or other religious perſons that were interred here. Since the conſolidation, ſervice is performed here but once in a fortnight.

This village was always ſmall, being but half a league long, and half a league broad, and paid but 7d. Dane-geld. It belonged to the Conqueror, who committed it to earl Godrick's care; it had then one carucate in demeſne, and was held by a freeman in king Edward's time, and was in Kenninghall ſoken.

The abbot of Bury had a part here worth 5s. in the Confeſſor's time, and 10s. in the Conqueror's, when it was held of him by an Engliſhman.

The whole town, except the abbot's part, remained in the crown till Henry II. gave it to William de Albany, earl of Arundel, before 1198, and the year following, at his death, it went to William his ſon and heir, who made a feoffment of the whole to Warine de Gateſthorp, and his heirs, who were to hold it of him, and his heirs, by the ſervice of two knights fees, and this is the reaſon that all the manors here were afterwards held of Tateſhale barony. Soon after this, it was divided, for the prior of Thetford had the advowſon and half a fee, and John de Berdewell, and his partners, had another half fee, each of which conſtituted a manor.

nor. Gateſthorp's whole fee was afterwards called Weſthall, or Wrotham's; the prior's half fee, Eaſthall, or Garlek's; and Berdewell's half fee was called Uphall.

Westhall, or Wrotham's Manor, was after Warine's death in ſir Adam de Gateſthorpe, then in Galfrid de Stanton, and ſoon after in Adam de Wrotham. In 1366 the manor belonged to Roger de Felbrigge John de Seckford, knts. and others, truſtees of Alice, widow of James de Wrotham, after married to John Cocket, who was lord. In 1398, Thomas de Riddleſworth was Lord. About 1450, Thomas Riddleſworth, dying ſoon after without heirs, as did his two ſiſters, Agnes and Margaret, upon which Robert ſon of Sir William Berdewell, knt. did homage for it to Ralph, lord Cromwell, as belonging to Tateſhale barony, of which it was held by one fee; and thus it was joined to the other monor, and hath continued ſo ever ſince.

Easthall, or Garlek's Manor, came ſome way or other, very ſoon, from Thetford prior, (who kept the advowſon to himſelf, and part of the demeſnes, valued in 1332 at a quarter of a fee) to John de Furneaux, and his truſtees, who were Lords in 1280; after this it belonged to Jeffrey Bainard, whoſe ſon, Roger, was Lord in 1294, and lived at Wramplingham: he ſettled it on William de la Menewaryn, rector of Eaſt Harling, who in 1336 conveyed it to ſir Walter de Fakenham, rector of Gaſthorpe, together with the reverſion of the dower of Marion, late wife of Jeffrey Bainard, who was ſtill living.

In

In 1346, Aveline, late wife of Roger le Meneward, was lady.

In 1349, Alice, late wife of Hugh de Buckenham, had it, and the same year Roger Bainard became lord, who was succeeded by Robert Bainard, who left a daughter, named Margery; she and John, son of sir John Furneaux, knt. and Alice Avenaunt, daughter of Rose Atte Wyk of Fakenham *Parva*, niece to Robert Bainard, released all their rights to John Garlek, of Gasthorpe, before 1361, and, about 1398, it was purchased of Walter Garlek by sir William Berdewell, of West Harling, knt. and joined to his manor of Uphall.

Uphall, or Berdewell's Manor, was granted by John de Berdewell, who was Lord in 1285; at his death, Sarah his wife had it, she was daughter to sir John de Furneaux, and lady in 1290; and in 1453 sir William Berdewell released Uphall and Garlek's to his son, Robert, in whom all the three manors became united, and have passed as West Harling to this time.

In the custom roll of Westhall manor, made in sir John de Gatesthorp's time, this peculiar custom is entered: That every tenant of that manor, that marries out of the homage, is obliged to pay the lord a bed, bolster, sheet, and pillow; this was constantly observed, and there are abundance of entries in the rolls of such payments: but in the time of Richard II. the bed was omitted by the lord's kindness, *per misericordiam domini*, though the rest were paid in the time of queen Elizabeth, or a composition for them. Every woman that had a bastard paid 2s. 8d. leyrwite, but the widows did not so. The dower of this manor was a third part

of

of all free and copyhold lands, and a moiety of all lands held in fuccage.

It was fine certain, and the copyhold defcended to the youngeft fon; the tenants could not plain, nor fell timber, nor waſte their copyhold houſes without licence. The greateſt part (if not the whole) is purchaſed by the preſent lord, ſo that there are but few, if any tenants, at this time.

In 1410 the town of Gateſthorpe held a piece of paſture called the Rodds, and thro' the collets† that went in the lord's flock, and land in his fold, paid as many ſmall rents as amounted to 4s. per ann.

In 1300 Richard de Boyland's tenants, in Wilby, were attached to do fealty and homage to Falthall manor, and alſo the tenants of Winfarthing for the ſame, and for one pound of pepper annual rent, iſſuing out of the tenement, and fifty acres of land, which lie between the way called Buckenhamgate, and the tenement of ſir Hugh Le-Vere, and abutts on Winfarthing town, the tythes of which belong, two garbs to Thetford monks, and one garb to Shelfhanger rector; this lay in Winfarthing and Shelfhanger, on the road that leads from Shelfhanger to Winfarthing. The rector of Winfarthing paid 20s. to the monks of Thetford for his portion, and Shelfhanger rector 18d.

† Hence it appears that a collet, (collectæ) or collect of sheep, was a collection of different men's sheep, that had a right to go in the lord's flock, paying the aforesaid yearly rents, and in ſuch places where theſe collets were, the bailiff called the bailyworthip was to collect thoſe rents for his lord and anſwer old roll: Memorandum, "That tenant that bere the bailyworthipp "one yer, he vyll the ſayd worthipp the next yer."

Kersey,

KEMPF'S MANOR was that part which belonged to Bury Abbey: in 1288 Adam Kempe had it, and paid 2s. 6d. a year to that abbey; and in 1294 William Kempe, who gave part of it with his daughter, Lettice, in marriage to William de Norwich: In 1297 he was dead, and ſhe married again to Simon de la Maynwaryn, of Harling, and that part fell into Eaſthall manor, the other part in 1330, at Emma Kempe's death, came to John Kempe, her ſon, and in 1341 was William Kempe's, by which time it was ſo far divided and aliened that there remained no rents.

This Norwich family was the moſt antient of any that lived here; we have ſeen a deed without date, by which John de Norwich, who lived at Gaſthorpe, manumiſed Richard, ſon of William Godhewe, of Herling Parva, and all his poſterity.

The leet belongs to the hundred, the lord of which is lord paramount, and hath waif, ſtray, and all other liberties, the lords of theſe manors not claiming any upon the *quo warranto's* brought, for each lord to ſet forth his privileges. The leet-fee is 12d.

Mrs. Margaret Gaudy gave 20s. per ann. to the poor of this pariſh, which is now paid by the pariſh of Garboldiſham,

In 1603, here were 27 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are 9 houſes, and about 60 inhabitants. It paid 38s. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at about 150l. to the land tax.

EAST HARLING, or MARKET HARLING, is ſo called becauſe it lies moſt eaſt of all three; it belonged to Ketel the Dane, a freeman in the Confeſſor's

ſor's time, when it was one manor; Ingulf held it under William de Schoies, there being then a church and four acres of land belonging to it. The whole was two miles long, and two miles broad, and paid 17d. 1q. gelt.

The whole came to the earl Warren and a part of it went with a younger branch of that family to the Bardolphs, held at half a fee; this after became Falconer's manor.

A quarter of a fee went to Robert Malet; another half fee went to Roger de Schovill; and the other fee and three quarters was held of the earl Warren, the whole making three fees, two fees and an half of which conſtituted the capital manor, called Felbrigg's, which was held by a family ſirnamed de Norfolk, the laſt of which was Gilbert de Norfolk, who died ſeiſed, leaving his five daughters coheireſſes. The firſt married Eudo, ſon of Adam de Multon; the ſecond, William de Verdon; the third, Roger Bigot, of Felbrigg; the fourth, William de Maynwaryn; the fifth, Robert de Aguillon, and each of them had a fifth part of the manor and advowſon, which after this diviſion became ſo many ſeparate manors. Martina de Norfolk was Gilbert's ſiſter, and William was her ſon, and both had lands here, but were not concerned in the manor.

MULTON'S MANOR was ſoon united to Bigot's, or Felbrigg's, for Eudo releaſed it to ſir Simon le Bigot, of Felbrigg, and ſo it fell into Felbrigg's immediately.

VERDON'S MANOR. William de Verdon, who married Maud, daughter of Gilbert de Norfolk, died before his wife, and ſhe had her dower allowed her, it

it having been fettled by them before his death on William de Lakenham, and Habel, his wife; after whom Alexander de Vaux, of Kelwick, and Margaret, his filter, had each a third part, about 1268; and in 1303 it was fettled by fine on Simon le Bigot, and fo united to Felbrigg's manor; but the 5th part of the advowfon, which was excepted, paffed from the Vaux's to the Hales, and fo fell into Maynwaryn's manor.

Maynwaryn's Manor. William de Maynwaryn had it by Emma, or Amy, his wife, daughter of Gilbert de Norfolk, and died in 1247. Agatha Maynwaryn was lady in 1315; from which time we meet with nothing of it till 1368, and then fir Roger de Hales had it, whofe fucceffor, Stephen de Hales, prefented in right of his two fifth parts of the advowfon; very foon after, in 1401, it belonged to fir John Conyile, with whofe daughter and heireſs it paffed to fir Robert Herling, and fo fell into the capital manor.

Aguillon's Manor went from Robert to Walter de Aguillon, and from him to Robert de Aguillon, who fettled it on Simon le Bigot, of Felbrigg, for ten marks per ann. to be paid to the faid Robert, at Flitcham, during his life, and thus it fell into Felbrigg's, or the capital manor. Roger le Bigot de Felbrigg, who was as often called Roger de Felbrigg, in right of Gilbert de Norfolk's daughter, whom he had married, had a fifth part of the manor and advowfon; after him it defcended in the family, and Simon le Bigot of Felbrigg, held it of the earl Warren. In the time of Henry III. he purchafed Aguillon's and Multon's parts.

In

In 1280 sir Roger le Bigot, of Felbrigg, had a charter of free-warren for his manors of Harling, Felbrigg, Runton, Melton, and Palling.

In 1303 Simon le Bigot, of Felbrigg, purchased Verdon's manor; this Simon had the whole by grant from William le Bigot, his brother, who was rector here; and in 1347 he conveyed the advowson, with one acre of land only, to him again. In 1350 they settled all but the acre and advowson on Nicholas Bourne, of Long Stratton, who left it to his two daughters and heiresses; Elizabeth, married to sir Thomas Jenny, knt. who in 1361 released all their right to Margaret, their sister, and John de Harling, her husband, and their heirs, who purchased the advowson of William Bigot, and so joined it to the manor again.

Falconer, or Fawconer's Manor, came with the younger branch of the earl Warren's family to the Bardolphs, and from them to Philip de Virlie, from him to John de Boyland, and from him to Ralph of Kenninghall, firnamed le Falconer.

In the reign of Edward III. John Falconer, of Kenninghall, who wife, Julian, died before him, in 1374, held her manors for life by the courtesy of England, they having then no living issue; she was daughter and coheiress of Thomas de Ormesby: her sisters were to inherit her manors at her husband's death. It was soon after in the Gonviles, but how it came to them we know not. The Falconers lived first at Kenninghall, and afterwards in the manor-house, which lay between Kenninghall and Harling, and is now called Hill-Harling, or Gelding-Hall. From the Gonviles it went with their heiress to the Har-

lings, and the whole being joined, it was called HARLING, or HERLING'S MANOR.

The Harlings were a family of great antiquity in this parish, from which they received their names; we find them mentioned in divers evidences without date, but as none of them were concerned in the lordship before John de Harling, about 1350, we shall begin with him in the following short account: "John de Harling died in 1392, buried here; his eldest son was sir John de Harling, knt. buried here; he had a daughter, Margaret, married to sir Robert Tuddenham, knt. and a son, sir Robert Harling, knt. who died in 1435 sole lord and patron; he married Joan, or Jane, heiress-general of Gonvile; Ann, their daughter and heiress, had three husbands, but no issue, so that it reverted to Margaret Tuddenham, her aunt, whose daughter, Margaret, married sir Edmund Bedingfield, knt. who sold it to sir Thomas Lovell, knt."

In 1360 John de Harling had free-warren allowed him in this manor, and those of Quidenham, Knattishall, Newton, and Corton, in Lothingland. In 1367 he settled this manor and advowson, Quidenham manor and advowson, the manor of Knattishall, manors in both Buckenhams, Croxton, and Rothinghall, and manor in Brettenham, on Thomas Heyward, master of Rushworth college, and other feoffees; he was a good soldier, and most expert manager of maritime affairs, upon which account, in 1342, he had the custody of the sea-water at Bristol during the king's pleasure. He was buried in the church of St. Peter and Paul at East Harling, (in Harling's chapel) according to his will, in which he ordered his best horse to be led before his corpse to the grave, as his principal, or mortuary, for the priest. He died seised

of

of the aforefaid manors, with thofe of Long Stratton, and many others. leaving them all to his eldeft fon and heir, fir John de Harling, knt. who in 1389 fettled feveral manors on his mother, then wife of fir John Tuddenham; he married Cecily, daughter and coheirefs of fir Thomas Mortimer, of Attleburgh, knt. fhe brought a great eftate to the Harlings.

Sir Robert Harling, knt. was a great warrior in France in the time of that victorious prince Henry V. whom he attended in 1412 at the fiege of Meaux, which they took by aflault, and during the reft of his life he was continually exercifing arms in that kingdom, where he died like a brave foldier, in his calling, being killed by the French at Paris, as he endeavoured valiantly to defend that city, in the year 1435; from whence he was brought and buried in St. Mary's, or Harling chapel, under an altar-tomb in the fouth wall, in which he founded a perpetual chantry for his own and his anceftors fouls, Jane, his wife, being buried with him. She brought him Larling manor and advowfon, Ruffhworth manor, called Gonvile's, Fawconer's, and Mawmwaryn's, all which, with one hundred acres in Mourningthorpe, were held at three fees of John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, as of his manor of Forncet. Ann, his daughter and fole heirefs, inherited; fhe lived to a great age, and married three hufbands: firft, fir William Chamberlain, of Gedding, in Suffolk, knight of the garter, a man of great renown, an able governor, and expert foldier, for during his being governor of Crailf upon Oife, in France, which in 1435 was befieged by the French, immediately after they had taken Paris, he behaved himfelf fo bravely, that with five hundred Engliflimen only he iffued out of the town, routed his enemies, flew two hundred of them, and took a great number prifoners. He is buried

ried in a fine arched monument, with his wife, on the north fide of the chancel in Harling chapel.

Her fecond huſband was ſir Robert Wingfield, knt. he was comptroller of the houſhold to Edward IV. and a man of great intereſt at court. In 1474 the king granted him a charter for a weekly market every Tueſday, at his manor of Eaſt Harling, and two fairs every year*, to laſt three days each, viz. one on the vigil, day, and morrow, of St. George the Maytyr, and another on the vigil. day, and morrow, of St. Edward. In the ſame year he poſſeſſed many manors in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeſhire, and large eſtates elſewhere. He died ſeiſed in 1480, after which ſhe married John lord Scroope, of Bolton, her third huſband, in 1492, who died July 12, 1494, and was buried in the Black Friars church at Thetford, Ann. his wife, ſurviving him; ſhe was a lady remarkable for her gifts to many religious foundations: ſhe gave Larling manor and advowſon, and Gonvile's, in Ruſhworth, to that college, and obtained them a licence of mortmain to purchaſe forty marks a year; ſhe ſettled the ſtipend of her father's chantry prieſt in this church, and founded the ſeventh fellowſhip in Gonvile-hall, in the year 1502, being then lady Scroope; this ſhe endowed with the manor of Newenham, called Mortimer's, in Cambridge, with the water-mill there, all which ſhe gave for the maintenance of her fellow, who muſt be a prieſt, and of Norwich dioceſe; his ſtipend at the foundation was 8l. a year: ſhe had a great value for this college, being daughter and heireſs of ſir Robert Harling, by Jane, daughter and heireſs of John Gonvile, eſq. deſcended in a direct line from ſir Nicholas Gonvile, knt. brother to the founder; ſhe was born in 1426, and

* The market and fairs are ſtill kept according to the grant.

and was alive in 1502, but having no iſſue, her eſtate went to Margaret, her aunt, who married ſir Robert Tuddenham, knt. by whom ſhe had five children; Joan, a nun, at Carrowe; Margaret, a nun, at Shouldham; Thomas, who died an infant; and Robert, who inherited, but died young and iſſueleſs, leaving Margaret, his ſiſter, his ſole heireſs, who married ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh; he was made knight of the bath at the coronation of Edward III. He ſold Harling manors and advowſon to ſir Thomas Lovell, knt. of the garter, and kept Quidenham; from which time it continued in the Lovells, till Thomas Wright, eſq. purchaſed it, and dying December 30, 1735, left it to Mr. John Wright, his eldeſt ſon, lord and patron.

The ſtile of the court is *Herling cum Membris*, all the manors being now joined. The fines are at the lord's will, the eldeſt ſon is heir. The leet belongs to the hundred. The leet-fee is 3s. Blanche-farm 10d. Caſtle-ward 14d.

The family of the Lovells were very numerous, and were poſſeſſed of Barton-Bendiſh, in the hundred of Clackcloſe, for many generations before they ſettled here.

Sir Thomas Lovell, knight of the garter, was an active man in the time of Henry VII. In 1485, when he was an eſquire only, he was made chancellor of the Exchequer for life; and the ſame year had an annuity of forty marks, as eſquire to the King's body. In 1473 Henry Heydon, eſq. granted him an annuity of 20s. out of his manner of Snoring *Parva*, called Dorketty's, for his good counſel that he had already, and ſhould hereafter give him. He was firſt made banneret, and in 1487 was knighted at the

battle of Stoke, and afterwards inſtalled knight of the garter. In 1502 he was treaſurer of the houſhold, and preſident of the council; he was one of the executors to the will of Henry VII. conſtable of the Tower, ſurveyor of the court of wards, ſteward and marſhal of the houſe to Henry VIII. he built the gate-houſe at Lincoln's Inn, and placed on it the king's arms, the earl of Lincoln's, and his own, by which it is probable he had been of that ſociety; he built Eaſt Harling-hall, on the tower of which his arms ſtill remain, and a braſs buſt of his own likeneſs, ſurrounded with the garter: he refounded Holliwell nunnery, near which he had a ſtately houſe, and dying at Enfield, May 25, 1524, was buried at Holliwell, in a fair chapel which he had built on the ſouth ſide of the choir of that church, under a tomb of white marble. This priory was dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, being ſituate in Shoreditch pariſh, by Norton Faldgate, London, and being much decayed, was rebuilt, and an addition made to its endowment by him, which occaſioned the following verſes to be inſcribed on a wall of that houſe:

All ye nunns of Haliwell,
Pray ye both day and night,
For the ſoul of ſir Thomas Lovell,
Whom Harry the Seventh made knight.

By his will, dated Oct. 14, 1522, proved Sept. 26, 1528, he gave his Manor-place at Enfield, called Elſings, (where he died) to Thomas Manners, lord Roos, and to his couſin, ſir Francis Lovell, knt. all his manors and eſtates in Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincolnſhire, Cambridgeſhire, Middleſex, Kent, Oxfordſhire, and Wilts.

Sir Francis Lovell died Jan. 21, 1550, and Thomas, his ſon, inherited all the poſſeſſions that ſir Thomas

Thomas Lovell, knight of the garter, gave to his father. In this family it remained till Gregory Lovell, esq. who was of that disposition that he did all he could to ruin the estate, being too malicious against his half brother, and in order thereto, he let the manor-house almost down, and when he perceived his death* grew near, married his servant on purpose to keep his brother out of it for her life, he having liberty to jointure by the entail. He gave a personal estate of above 6000l. to see his will performed, to sir John Buckworth, and Mr. Borret, of Griston, his executors, from whom John Lovell, esq. met with more kindness and generosity than from his brother, they being so just as to deliver up all the evidences, and whatever belonged to the estate, to him, without any disturbance, notwithstanding which he was forced to sell it, having prevailed upon his son, Mr. Lovell, of Buckenham, to join with him in the sale.

In 1720, Dec. 19, the Rev. Robert Wright, A. B. was presented rector by Thomas Wright, esq. he was doctor of divinity, rector of Knattishall, in Suffolk, and of the sinecure rectory of Hackney, and prebendary in the church of Litchfield. He was again presented by the crown in 1738; the Rev. Edward Addison had this rectory in 1776; and the Rev. Leonard Addison in 1777, by gift of the crown, *p. h. v.*

The rectory of East Harling hath a rectory-house, and several acres of glebe, and is rated in the king's books at 12l.

The church is dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, and is a fine uniform building, having its nave, two

* He died in 1693.

ailes, and ſouth porch leaded, a ſquare tower, with a ſpire thereon, and free-ſtone baluſtrades inſtead of battlements; it was built by ſir William Chamberlain, as appears from the many blank ſhields, encompaſſed with the garter, cut on the ſtones, finiſhed about 1449, but the bells were not put up 'till 1465: the greateſt part of the church, if not the whole, was re-built by that knight, the windows (as the arms and effigies of them diſcover) were finiſhed by ſir Robert Wingfield, who married his widow, whoſe effigies, with that of his wife, ſtill remain.

At the eaſt end of the ſouth aile is a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, called Harling's chapel, it being the burial place of that family, ſir Robert Harling, knt. (who rebuilt it) lies under an altar-tomb, in an arch in the ſouth wall; he founded a chantry of one prieſt in this chapel —In 1458 it was endowed by ſir William Chamberlain, and Anne, his wife, with nine marks annual rent, iſſuing out of Falconer's manor, then worth twenty marks a year; according to ſir Robert's will, he ordered, that if he died without heirs, then his manors of Eaſt-Harling, Quidenham, with their advowſons, Buckenham-wood, and Knattiſhall manor, ſhould be ſettled for three chantry prieſts in this chapel, but if he left a daughter, then ſhe was only obliged to ſettle a proviſion for one prieſt. I was not rated to any taxes whatever, but had inſtitution in the ſame manner as the rectory.

The preamble to the king's licence, which he granted to amortiſe the ſaid rent, is very particular, for it ſays, "that his majeſty granted this licence to his faithful counſellor, ſir William Chamberlain, knt. without any fine or fee, in conſideration of

of the great and eminent ſervice he had done him in his kingdom of France, and Duchy of Normandy, in the war there, and in other places, and particularly for the great damage he and his family received, by paying his fine of redemption to the king's enemies of France, (who took him priſoner in 1446.) and alſo for the great value he had for ſir Robert Harling, the founder, who died in his ſervice as he warr'd in France."

This ſir Robert Harling ordered in his will, if he died in England, to be buried here, and ſo he was, though he died in the French wars at Paris, his effigy, with that of his wife, beautifully carved in marble, lie on the top of the altar-tomb; on his breaſt are his own arms and thoſe of Mortimer, his mother; he looks with a grim viſage, his feet reſt on a lion, the uſual emblem of thoſe that died in war; his lady hath a water bouget on her breaſt, the whole tomb being adorned with unicorns, and pelicans, the one the creſt of Harling, the other of Gonvile: his arms are on the top, ſupported by two unicorns; they are often on the ſcreens of the chantry, and ſometimes with creſcents.

On the table that they lie on is a fillet of braſs which ſtill remains very perfect, on which is a Latin inſcription. He died Sept. 9, 1435.

On the ſame ſide of this chapel is a ſtately tomb of different coloured marble, encompaſſed with an iron grate; the ſtatues of a man in armour with a peacock's tail proper at his feet, and of a woman, with two naked arms, holding a head erazed, bearded and hair'd ſab lie on an altar-tomb, under a canopy, or bed of ſtate, with an inſcription to ſir Thomas Lovell, knt. ſon and heir of ſir Thomas Lovell, knt.

knt. who died Dec. 12, 1604, aged 64; ſhe died Sept. 1, 1600, age p 64. At the head is Huddleſton's arms, and at the feet Lovell's; at the top Lovell's arms and quarterings, mantle and creſt; on the ſide three eſcutcheons, one of which is Lovell and his quarterings, impaling Huddleſton and his quarterings, viz. Knevet, Nevill, Montague, Monthermer, Holland, earl of Kent, with England in a bordure ar. Tiptoft, Inglethorp, Bradeſton, Charleton, lord Powis, Delapole, and az. on a feſs indented three bezants.

In a ſouth window were the portraitures of a man in armour kneeling, in long gray hair, having on his ſurcoat the arms of Chamberlain, with a label, and oppoſite to him a woman kneeling; between them were theſe arms, Chamberlain impaling Legat, Herling and Mortimer, of Attleburgh, quartered; Tuddenham, quartering Herling; Gonvile impaling Herling, impaling Hemgrave; Bedingfield, and Herling, quartered; Mortimer, quartering Gilfard; Charleton lord Powis; Wingfield, quartering Bovile; Scroop, quartering Tiptoft; Chamberlain, quartering Fitz-Ralfe; Fitz Ralfe, quartering——gul; two bendlets ar. Coniers, quartering Fitz-Ralfe.

In a high eaſt window of the nave, Tiptoft, and----- az. a bend or.

On the north windows of the nave, Windham, impaling Howard; Legat, impaling Warren; Erpingham, Bolleyn, quartering Butler; Heydon, quarterly, impaling Bolleyn; Calthorpe, impaling Stapleton; Hevenyngham, impaling Darcy; Wingfield, quartering Doreward and Bovile; Wingfield, impaling Fitz-Lewis, Brandon, Glanvile, and Honipot;

Jenny

Jenny impales Wingfield, and ſo does Echingham and Bovile; Framlingham; Delapole, quarters Wingfield; ſir Robert Harling, and Jane Gonvile, his wife, with their arms,

In the ſouth aile windows, Scroop and Tiptoft, quartered, with their effigies. Alſo, effigies of a Fitz-Williams and his wife, who was a Harling.

In the windows of Harling chapel, ſir Robert Harling, and Jane his wife, ſir William Chamberlain, and Anne his wife, with their arms on their ſurcoats, and in the eaſt window over the altar this:——*Orate pro animabus Willi: Chamberlayn, militis, et Anne uxoris ejus, et Roberti Harlyng, militis, et Joanne uxoris.*

The ſcreens between the church and chancel are finely carved and painted, being put up by ſir Robert Harling, whoſe arms and creſt are often carved thereon.

The chancel is leaded, having two chapels joined to the north ſide; that moſt eaſt is dedicated to the bleſſed name of Jeſus, the other to St. Anne; they are both leaded.

On the ſouth ſide of the chancel wall, towards the eaſt end, is a ſtone mural monument, on which Lovell, and Muſwell, joined per feſs, impale Paris, with Lovell's creſt; ſir Thomas Lovell, knt. and Elizabeth, his lady. He died, March 23, 1567; ſhe March 31, 1591.

Oppoſite, on the north ſide, another monument of the ſame kind, but no inſcription.—Lovell and Muſwell, impaling Aſhfield, of Middleſe. Lovell's creſt.

The

The arms ſhew it was erected for ſir Francis Lovell, and Anne Aſhfield, his wife; he died Jan. 25, 1550.—This is againſt Jeſus chapel, which is now a ſchool-houſe.

More weſt, in the north wall, is a moſt ſtately arched monument, diſrobed of it's braſſes, under which lie buried ſir William Chamberlain, knight of the garter, and Anne his wife, daughter and heireſs of ſir Robert Harling: this divides the chancel from St. Ann's chapel, which was founded by his lady, and dedicated to her name's-ſake. The tomb fronts both into the chancel and the chapel, the chancel ſide being adorned with his arms, &c. and the chapel's ſide with her's; in the arch is carved Chamberlain's arms, quartering Tiptoft, which is again cut on the ſide of the monument next the chancel, with mantle, creſt, and ſupporters.

On the chapel's ſide, Harling and Mortimer quartered, with an eſcutcheon of pretence of Gonvile and Harling; creſt and ſupporters.

In a manuſcript of Henry St. George, garter king at arms, is a part of the inſcription that was on this monument, and this remark made by Mr. Le-Neve.—"That here were their two effigies, and that the garter was on his left leg, and though Mr. Aſhmole ſays, that Fitz-William's tomb was the oldeſt, and had it ſo placed, yet this is older."

Many of the memorials which were in this church are now loſt, one account of them was was taken by the Rev. Mr. Leverland, rector of Framlingham-caſtle, in Suffolk, and others by different perſons, as Mr. Borret, of Griſton, Henry St. George, &c.

In

In this church is buried Elizabeth Truſſell, ſiſter to ſir William Chamberlain, who died April 30, 1472, but the four ſhields and inſcription were loſt before theſe accounts were taken.

Charles Wright, eſq. lately glazed the eaſt chancel window, with ancient glaſs that he found in his houſe, which formerly came out of this window, and contains the principal paſſages of the New Teſtament, from our Saviour's incarnation to his crucifixion.—The effigies of ſir Robert Wingfield, and his wife, are now placed in this window.

In 1556 the church-wardens, and inhabitants, ſold to ſir Francis Lovell, knt. and his heirs, twenty-one acres and one rood plowed ground of their town land, lying in Eaſt Harling, and he in 1558 granted thirty-two acres and an half to the inhabitants, to be town land *for ever*.—In the time of James I. the feoffees made a new feoffment of the town land to others, there being then ſixty acres, beſides a pightle called Waſtell's.—Theſe lands were given to repair and adorn the church; the temporals of the prior of Buckenham in this town were taxed at 2s. 4d.

Theſe arms were formerly in Harling-hall windows; Lovell, impaling Bendiſh, Mulwell, Roos, Woodhouſe, Dethick, Huddleſton, Pakenham, Aſhfield, Brandon, and Harling; Thomburgh, Colton, Vaux, Chamberlain, and Legate; Mortimer and Gonvile. The badges of the red and white roſe, of the pomegranate, of a lizard gul. his tongue or. ——the arms of Henry VIII. impaling Caſtile, Leon, and Granada.

Stephen

Stephen de Giffing, and Lucy Maynwaryn, his wife, for 26s. in hand, paid by deed, dated on St. Dunſtan's day, in 1283, releaſed to Simon Maynwaryn, and his heirs, all manner of actions that they might bring againſt him, for not building her houſes in Harling, that ſhe was to have had built for her, in lieu of part of her dower, and they bound themſelves, their heirs, and executors, in 60s. penalty, that no ſuch action ſhould be brought, and ſubjected themſelves to the biſhop of Norwich, or his official, in this caſe, who ſhould excommunicate them if the penalty was not paid; further obliging themſelves to pay 100s. towards the relief of the Holy-Land, if ever any ſuch action was brought, and to confirm it, they promiſed it before ſir William de Crungethorpe, knt. Maſter Elias Aliune Cherche, rector of Eaſt Harling, ſir Geffry de Gerbaudeſham, chaplain, and others.—We could not omit taking notice of this deed, the penalties being remarkable.

The market is on Tueſdays, and not on Thurſdays, as the Atlas, and the late deſcription of the dioceſe of Norwich (which is chiefly a tranſcript from thence), tell you, though it is right as to its being chiefly for linen-yarn, and cloth, the manufacture of this part of the county. This town in 1603 had 223 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are about 400 inhabitants. It paid 6l. 6s. 8d. tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 69l. 11s. 8d. to the land tax.

WEST HARLING, or HERLING, which is ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from the other Harlings. Here were ſeveral manors. At the ſurvey the manor was a berewic belonging to Kenninghall manor, with which it was held by the Confeſſor and Conqueror, and was granted as a member of it to the Albanys, who

in

in the time of Henry I. infeoffed it in the Angervilles, a family firnamed from a place in Normandy, where they were lords; it was to be held at half a fee of the manor of Kenninghall, as of the caſtle of Buckenham.

In the time of Henry II. ſir Benedict de Angerville was lord, who died without iſſue male, leaving his three daughters his heireſſes: the firſt married William de Snitterton, otherwiſe called Bokenham, of Snitterton, as his family always continued to be called, viz. ſometimes de Snitterton, and ſometimes de Bokenham de Snitterton. The ſecond married Nicholas de Bello-Foco, Bello-Fago, or Beaufo. The third married ſir Andrew de Shambourn; ſhe died without iſſue in the time of king John, and her part reverted to her ſiſters and their heirs, ſo that now it divided into two manors, each held at a quarter of a fee of the ſaid earl's, the one called Buckenham's, and the other Beaufo's,

Buckenham, or Bokenham's Manor, being thus come to ſir William de Bokenham de Snitterton, is deſcended in his family for many ages, being held of a quarter of a fee of the earl of Arundel, and he of the king, the relief of which was 10s. till in 1401 Hugh Bokenham, of Livermere, ſon and heir of Hugh de Bokenham, of Snitterton, releaſed to Robert Bardewell, eſq. all his right in Buckenham's manor, in Weſt Harling, which was ſold to ſir William Bardewell, knt. by Hugh Bokenham, his father, and thus this manor was joined to Bardewell's.

The Bokenhams ſtill had divers lands here, for in 1479 Edmund Bokenham, eſq. by will, ordered 2s. 8d. to be diſtributed among his poor ſervants of Snitterton, Shropham, Hargham, and Harling.

The

The fishery solely belonged to the lord, exclusive of all the tenants.

Beauso's Manor came to Nicholas de Bello-Fago, or Beauso, in right of his wife as aforesaid, and descended with his family till 1326, when Nicholas de Beauso settled the manor and advowson on himself for life, remainder to Thomas Bardewell, and Amy, his wife, daughter of the said Nicholas, and their heirs; from which time it was joined to Bardewell's manor, as was the advowson, the whole of which at first belonged to Angerville's manor, and with that divided one moiety to Buckenham's, and the other to Beauso's, till Ralph de Bokenham sold his moiety, with an acre and half of land, to Hugh de Beauso, and then this manor had the whole advowson.

Furneaux's Manor, after called Bardewell's, passed with Middle Harling, of which it was a part in the Conqueror's time, and so continued till sir John Furneaux, knt. gave it in marriage with Sarah, his daughter, to John de Bardewell, to be held of the earl of Bretaigne, as of Richmond honor, at half a fee, and this was the first possession that the Bardewells ever had in any of the Harlings: soon after which, in 1280, it was called Bardewell's, or East Thorpe Manor, by reason of its lying east of the church, (as Hackford-hall manor was sometimes called West Thorpe, or Harling Thorpe, which name it still retains, on account of its lying west of the church) and to distinguish it from Furneaux, or Middle Harling manor, to which it joined; and from this time all these manors went in the Bardewell family.

The fines are certain, at 4s. an acre, whether land, meadow, or pasture, and no regard to houses, or homesteads,

homeſtalls, they being included in the content; it gives no dower, the lands deſcend according to the common law; for thoſe lands that are heriotable, the heriot is the beſt beaſt; but if they have no beaſt, there is no heriot due; they cannot waſte their copyhold, nor fell timber, (unleſs to repair their copyhold) without licence. Childwite is due to the lord, which is 2s. 8d. of every woman, bond tenant, that hath a baſtard. Chevage is alſo paid to the lord, it being a fine for every bond tenant for liberty to live out of the lordſhip, and women pay it as well as men, viz. 1d. a year each head. Boſage is alſo paid here, which is 1d. a head yearly for all cows and great cattle that feed on the commons; every ten ſheep of the cullet that laid in the lord's fold paid 1d. a year. Weſt Fenn common, at Thorpe End, belonged ſolely to the manor, all the tenants were obliged to grind at the lord's mill, and the fiſhery of all the manors belonged ſolely to the lord. Foldage is a cuſtom of this manor, that every five ſheep that go with the lord's, whether they be of the cullet, or not if the owners will not let them lie in the lord's fold, but will fold them in their own grounds, they muſt pay 1d. a year each five; the bond tenants cannot fell any male young cattle of their own breeding without the lord's licence.

HACKFORD-HALL MANOR, afterwards Seckford, or Weſt Thorpe, and now Harling Thorpe. This manor was in two parts in the Confeſſor's and Conqueror's times; the firſt was in Bury abbey from its firſt foundation; the ſecond in one Anti's hands, in the Confeſſor's days, and Robert de Verli's in the Conqueror's; from whom it came to the earl Warren, and went with the poſſeſſions of the younger branch of that family to the Bardolphs, by them in-

feoffed in fir Adam de Methwold, of whom fir William de Hackford had it.

The abbey's part in the Conqueror's time was in Richard, by feoffment of abbot Baldwin, who held it of the abbey at one fee; and from that time it paffed as Haftings' manor, in Giffing, till Hugh de Haftings, fteward to Henry I. infeoffed fir William de Hackford, knt. who held it alfo at one fee, paying 18d. every twenty weeks to the abbot, to the ward of Norwich caftle, which tenure continued till after 1360; for then Framlingham Gaudy, efq. paid it to the crown, in right of the diffolved monaftery of Bury; it paid then 2s. a year for fuit to the hundred court, and 9d. every twenty weeks to the lord of the hundred for caftle ward, for Bardolph's part.

The cuftoms are the fame now as the other manors, but were different formerly; for in 1634 the copyhold defcended to the youngeft fon, and it gave a moiety dower. It was then fine certain, at 4s. an acre. The bofage, foldage, and chevage, were the fame as in the other manors, but the childwite was not certain, but at the lord's will. They could fell all manner of beafts that they bred, and this cuftom prevailed here, that every copyholder that married paid the lord a bolfter, fheet, and pillow, or fined for them, except the tenants called Molmen, who were not fubject to this cuftom.

In 1346 there was a free tenement, and forty-two acres of land, in Illington, held of this manor by Peter de Ealthall, and alfo an annual rent of 1d. a year paid to St. John of Jerufalem's hofpital at Carbrooke, for the fouls of the lord's anceftors; and the brethren of St. John's college at Ruffhworth had annually a fat lamb delivered them. The parifh of Middle Harling held one acre and an half of this manor

manor, and paid 6d. free-rent. The ewes of the flock were milked daily, by people hired by the lord for that purpose. It extended into all the Harlings, Quidenham, Rushford, Shadwell, and Illington. Sir William de Hackford, or Akeford, knt. and his heirs, held both the parts of the manor as aforesaid. They held it but a little while, for in 1275 sir William de Hackford, a man that did much service in the Scotch wars, settled the manor in trust for his two daughters, his heiresses; after this he purchased many lands in Harling of Adam de Raveningham, and settled them for their use on his trustee, who farmed the manor, and kept courts in his own name, as farmer of it.

Sir John de Seckford, of Suffolk, knt. became lord in 1331, in right of Joan, his wife, the eldest daughter of sir William de Hackford, Henry de Elnham, and Elizabeth, his wife who was sir William's other daughter, having releafed all their right in it to sir John, and his lady, who releafed to them all their right in that part of their demesnes that lay in Bridgham, and in the whole manor of Hackford-hall, in Fringe; he is sometimes called de Schurford, Sudeford, Segford, and Secford.

Thomas Seckford, esq. lord of Seckford, in Suffolk, died in 1507, leaving Thomas Seckford, esq. of Great Bealings, in Suffolk, his heir. He and his father's surviving feoffees sold it to George Nunne, of Tostock, in Suffolk, clothier; and in 1564 the said George and John, his son and heir, sold it to Battingbourne Gaudy, of Mendham, in Suffolk, esq. From this time it was joined to the other manors, and so continues.

The manor-house hath been down many ages: for in 1398 the lord lived at Seckford, and had a pond,

or pool, in the late ſcite of the manor, called Seckford-hall yard-cloſe, in Weſt Harling.

In 1504, after a ſuit between the lord and the prior of the monks of St. Mary at Thetford, the lord agreed for the future to pay 2s. a year to that monaſtery, out of lands, called Gildenſleves, which were joined to the manor by purchaſe, and did always heretofore pay 2s. 6d. a year.

The family of the Bardewells took their name from the town of Bardwell, or Berdewelle, in Suffolk, where they lived in the Conqueror's time, when Baldwin, abbot of Bury, infeoffed Ralph de Bardewell of that manor; they always bear for their rebus, or device, a bear with a well on his back, and theſe two letters, *d. e.* which can't but make Bear-de-well, or Berdewelle.

In 1196 William, ſon of Ralph de Bardewell, held Bardewell at two fees; and this family afterwards held Gaſtorpe, Beaufoe's manor in this town, Thorpe, in Suffolk, and Furneaux's manor here.

Sir William Bardewell, knt. the great warrior, was born in 1367, for in the 9th of Henry IV. (*anno* 1407) he was forty years old, being then one of the knights ſummoned as witneſſes for ſir Edw. Haſtings, of Elſing, in the cauſe between him and ſir Reginald Grey, lord Ruthyn, concerning the arms of Haſtings, in which he ſwore, that he was a ſoldier with ſir Hugh Haſtings, the defendant, in the voyage made by ſir John Arundell on the ſea, and ſaw ſir Hugh bear the arms of—or, a maunch gul. with a label of three points arg.—In the voyage of ſir Malves de le Ile; in the voyage of Richard II. into Scotland. In Bretaigne, in the deceaſed duke of Lancaſter's voyage into

into Spain, and that he always underſtood that the label was borne by the next heir, according to the uſage of England, as the prince of Wales bears it, and was the conuſance of the next heir. In 1382 he was retained by ſir John Clifton, of Buckenham-caſtle, to ſerve him with ſeven men at arms, and ſix archers on horſeback, in the voyage of Croyſerve, and of the king, for one year, for 100 marks, for himſelf, with bouche de court*, and for his ſeven men at arms, and ſix archers, 392 marks, to be paid half down, and the reſt quarterly, as the biſhop of Norwich ſhould pay ſir John Clifton.

In 1387 he covenanted with the lord Camoys to ſerve under him in the expedition at ſea, under the command of the lord Arundel, then admiral of England, for four months, with two eſquires ſufficiently armed, and three archers, and each of his men of arms to have one ſervant to carry their bayonets, ſir William to find them wages, who was to have eighteen marks for his own ſervice, and twenty marks for his archers, and bouche de court for all his retinue, all of them to be ready at Southampton the 4th of May following, and if any great chieftain was taken in the war, by ſir William, or his retinue, the lord Camoys was to have him, giving ſufficiently to him and his men that ſhould take him.

In the year 1400 Michael De-la-Pole, earl of Suffolk, granted him an annuity of 20l. during his life, out of his caſtle, manor, and honor, of Eye, in Suffolk, in recompence for the good and agreeable ſervice that ſir William had done him in times paſt, and ſhall do him in time to come, both in war and peace;

* Bowge of court, is a certain quantity of proviſions allowed to a ſervant, in the palace of a prince, or houſe of a nobleman.

and upon this ſir William obliged himſelf to ſerve the earl with one 'ſquire, two ſervants, and five horſes, all which were to have bouche de court at the earl's expence, and if he travelled in England, at the earl's command, he was to be allowed reaſonable expences; and in time of war he was to find as many men at arms, and archers on horſeback, as he could, all which the earl was to pay as the king paid him, and he was to have two parts of their ranſom, and the earl the other third part, but no priſoner was to be delivered up without the earl's licence. In this year he did homage to Thomas earl of Arundel and Surrey, for his lands in Harling, held of Caſtle Acre manor: he died in October, 1434, and gave to the reparation of Bardwell church 40s. and 20s. to repair the roads; he gave 20l. to his daughter, Iſabel, and to Robert, his ſon and heir, his baſilard, and all his gilt armor, his beſt girdle, with his looſe gown, furr'd with beaver: he died poſſeſſed of the manors of Bardwell, Buckenham, and Beauto, in Weſt Harling; Garleck-hall, in Gaſthorpe; Belaugh, Norton, Wicken, Bardwell, Wickes, in Bardwell, and Thorpe, in Suffolk: he was buried at Bardwell, where he chiefly reſided, in a north window of which church a curious effigy of him ſtill remains, very perfect.

His ſecond ſon, Robert Bardewell, of Belaugh, eſq. (who built the old hall at Harling, and firſt ſettled there) became his heir; who in 1439 did homage to the earl of Arundel, for Weſt Harling; and in 1446 to Ralph lord Cromwell and Tateſhale, for Gaſthorpe: this Robert was one of thoſe gentlemen of ancient coat armor, who were choſe by the juſtices of this county to ſerve the king in his wars as recruits, as appears by the original privy ſeal and return, now lying in the court of receipt of the Exchequer,

chequer, at Weſtminſter, in raggeman bag. He died Jan. 22, 1455, and was buried with his firſt wife, on the north ſide of the altar, in this chancel; his ſtone is now much broken and defaced; it hath Bardewell's coat, impaling three nags heads cooped, the three other coats being loſt, as is part of the circumſcription.

William Bardewell, ſenior, of Weſt Harling, eſq. his ſon and heir, had two wives, by whom he had thirty ſons and daughters: by Eleanor, his firſt wife, he had the manors of Middle Harling and Kimberley.

In 1441 the duke of Norfolk, by deed, dated at his caſtle of Framlingham, granted to his beloved ſervant, William Bardewell, ſen. eſq. an annuity of ten marks, for the good ſervices that he had done him: we have ſeen his will, of his own hand writing, from which the following extract is taken:

Jeſu mercye! Mary helpe!

" *In Dei nomine, Amen.* I Welyam Berdewell the " holder, *ſana mente & bonæ memoriæ*, qwan I pas " hawt of this miſery werd, I beqwethe my ſowle to " the Trenite, Fadir, Sone, and Holye Goyſt, three " perſonis, and one God, my bodye to be beryed in " the chanſel of Weſtharlyng, on the ſouth ſide, be- " fore Seynt John, betweene bothe my wyvys. And " I beſette to the hey awtyr xs. & to the churche odyr " xs. alſo to the lytys on the candleſtekys afore the " hey awtyr odyr xs. and to the ſeywe joys afore " our Lady odyr xs. And alſo I beſette a veyſt- " mente to the hey awtyr, and to the place of the " frerys at Thetforth xs. and to the chapell of our " Lady in Thetforth odyr xs. alſo xs. to Medylhar- " lyng, & a nobyl to the frerys of Babwell. Odyr " xs. to the kwyte freris of Norwiche; and alſo for to

" be preyd for in the townys abowte me, and nowght " to labour. I befette to Heft Harlynge chirche a no- " byl, and forte denar; and to Gatysthorp a nobyl, " viij fheep to Trenety geld. (at Weft Herling) to " the channowyns (at Thetford) xs. and to the nunys " ther odyr xs. to prey to God for me, and to the " hey awter of Seint Marye chirche of Thetforthe " xs. and xs. to our Ladi (at Weft Harling) and a " nobyl to the chirche. (He gave a good legacy to " his) fon, Peter, to prey for (him) and for (his) " weyfwys, with fadyr & modir, and al odyr frendys, " qwiche paft the werd, &c."

His effigy, bare-headed, with a greyhound at his feet, and his fword and fpurs on, ftill remains, and two efcutcheons, one of Bardewell quartering Mortimer, and the other of Bardewell and Pakenham, and an infeription.

William Bardewell, jun. efq. his fon and heir, fucceeded: his effigy remains on his ftone, which is bare headed, and in armour, his wife's being in a bonnet. The arms of Bardewell and Witchingham are firft fingle, and then impaled.

He was fucceeded by his fon, William Bardewell, of Harling, efq. who married Margaret, daughter of John Framlingham, of Crow's-Hall, in Debenham; they both died in one week, *anno* 1508, feifed of Drayton-hall manor, in Scarning, and Dillington, Kelling, Salthoufe, Gafthorpe, Weft and Middle Harling manors, and advowfons, and were buried together in the nave of this church: his effigy, bare-headed, with that of his wife, by him, with their efcutcheons, ftill remain, and an infeription.

In

In 1589 Robert Bardewell, esq. as heir male of the family, released Limbourne manor to Basingbourne Gaudy, esq.

Robert Bardewell, of West Harling, esq. died in the king's service, beyond sea, in 1512; he had only one daughter, viz. Elizabeth Bardewell, who was but one year old at her father's death, and her wardship fell to sir Edward Howard, knt of whom Scarning, &c. was held, in right of lady Morley, sir Edward's wife, who in 1512 sold it, immediately after her father's death, to William Wooton, his executor; and he sold it with her marriage to sir Robert Southwell, knt. who married her to John Wooton, of North Tuddenham, who confirmed the exchange lately made, of Salthouse, and Kelling manors, which were lately the Witchinghams, and Bardewells, for Draytonhall, in Scarning. He kept his first court here in 1528, and in 1536 his wife died, after which he married a daughter of Nevill, lord Abergavenny, widow of lord Dacre.

By Elizabeth, his first wife, he left one only daughter, Ann, whose wardship John Millicent, esq. sold in 1545 to sir Anthony Rouse, it belonging to him as lord of Bergham manor, of which the manor of Middle Harling is held, as parcel of the honor of Richmond: she had three husbands; first, sir Thomas Woodhouse, of Waxham, (William Woodhouse having purchased her guardianship of sir Anthony Rouse in 1547) by whom she had no issue, nor by Henry Reppes, of Mendham, esq. her second husband, who kept his first court in 1551, and was dead before 1556; for in that year Basingbourne Gaudy, esq. second son of Thomas Gaudy, serjeant at law, her third husband, kept his first court, and held Middle Harling of Robert Berney, as of his manor of Bergham,

Bergham, by the ſervice of half a fee, and 5s. per annum; he was afterwards knighted. In 1564 he purchaſed Seckford manor, and thus all the manors in Weſt Harling, Middle Harling, and Gaſthorpe, came to the Gaudys. She was buried at Harling, July the 9th, 1594.

Sir Baſſingbourne Gaudy, knt. died ſeiſed, Jan. 25, 1569, of all the manors, together with Limbourne, in Homersfield, Roudham, Drayton-hall, &c. leaving two ſons, Baſſingbourne, and ſir Philip.

He was ſucceeded by Baſſingbourne Gaudy, eſq. his ſon and heir, when Thomas Gaudy, of Gaudy-hall, his uncle, was truſtee for Seckford's manor. This Baſſingbourne held Weſt Harling of the earl of Arundel, Middle Harling of the queen, as of her honor of Richmond, at half a fee, Seckford's of the diſſolved abbey of Bury, at 3s. yearly rent, Drayton-hall of the lady Morley, and Gaſthorpe of Philip Knevet, eſq. he was thrice ſheriff of Norfolk, viz. in 1573, in 1593, and in 1601, when he was a knight. He had two wives; the firſt was Ann, daughter of ſir Charles Framlingham, of Debenham; ſhe was an heireſs, and brought the whole eſtate of the Framlinghams. His ſecond wife was Dorothy, daughter of ſir Nicholas Bacon, of Redgrave. He died the 23d of May, 1606, leaving iſſue by both his wives; by the laſt he had two ſons and two daughters; by the firſt he had two ſons. Framlingham Gaudy, eſq. the eldeſt, was born the 8th of Auguſt, 1589. In 1627 he was ſheriff of Norfolk, and afterwards one of the deputy lieutenants of that county, by commiſſion from Henry earl of Northampton, then lord lieutenant; he married Lettice, daughter and coheireſs of ſir Robert Knowles, knt. his guardian, who was buried here the 3d of December, 1630, by

ſir

ſir Robert, her father, who was buried Jan. 20, 1618. He was buried February 25, 1654. by his father-in-law, leaving ſix ſons and two daughters. William Gaudy, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, was created baronet July 13. 1663; he had four ſons and one daughter; Baſſingbourne, the eldeſt, died unmarried, at London. Sir John Gaudy, bart. his ſecond ſon and heir, was born October 4, 1639, being deaf and dumb, notwithſtanding which he was an admirable painter, and a moſt ingenious man; he married Ann, daughter of ſir Robert de Grey, of Merton, knt. by whom, at his death, in 1699, he left one ſon and one daughter. Sir Baſſingbourne Gaudy, bart. his ſon and heir, died unmarried, on Thurſday, Oct. 10, 1723, of a bruiſe in his privities, which he received by his horſe's ſtumbling as he was hunting; he was wrapt in ſear-cloth, and buried in a leaden coffin, in our Lady's chapel, in this church, which is lately taken down, (a faculty being obtained for that purpoſe) and his grave, raiſed with bricks over it, is now to be ſeen in the church-yard, on the ſouth ſide, where the chapel ſtood; he left three nieces, his heirs, they being daughters of his ſiſter, Ann, by Oliver le Neve, of Great Witchingham, eſq. their ſon, Oliver, dying without iſſue in 1686, viz. Iſabella, then ſingle; Ann, married to John Rogers, of Stanford, licentiate in phyſic; and Henrietta, married to Edward le Neve, gent. only ſon of Edward le Neve, citizen and merchant-taylor, of London; who all joined and conveyed the whole eſtate to Joſhua Draper, eſq. he ſold it to Richard Gibbs, eſq. lord and patron, who purchaſed all this and Middle Harling, and built a neat ſeat, which was begun by Mr. Draper, who pulled down the old hall, called Bardewell-hall, the ſcite of which joined to the ſouth-eaſt corner of the church-yard, and began this new building in the place where the old one ſtood.

Richard

Richard Gibbs, esq. left this estate to his nephew, ——— Croftes, esq. and his son, Richard Croftes, esq. late member for the university of Cambridge, is the present lord.

The leets of the two towns belong to the duke of Norfolk's hundred of Guiltcross, to which hundred-court each town paid 6d. leet-fee, and 7d. a piece for blanche-farm, 6s. for three suit fines, and 7d. a piece for castle-ward.

In 1603 there were 132 communicants in this parish, and now (Blomefield) there are about six or seven houses, and sixty inhabitants; it is now assessed with Middle Harling at 427l.

Bardewell-hall was a fine old embattled stone building, moated round; it was demolished in 1725; there was a family chapel in it anciently, and the following arms were in the parlour, and other windows, when it was pulled down, viz. Bardewell impaling Walcote, Mortimer, of Attleburgh, Furneaux, Witchingham, Framlingham, Wotton, Jenney, Pakenham, Glanvile, Southwell, and L'Estrange; Gaudy impaling Baffingbourne, Bodrigan, Knowles, and Knightly; Baffingbourne Gaudy, 1593, impales Framlingham and his quarterings, viz. Lee, Borne, Tiptoft, Charlton, Holland, Inglethorp, Bradston, and De-la-Pole; Framlingham impales Neville and his quarterings, viz. Neville, Montacute, Monthermer, Holland, earl of Kent, England in a bordure, ar. Wake, Estottevill, Burgh, Jeffery, and Scotham.

Here was a family firnamed Tunes-ende, or Towns-end, in 1290. In 1302 William atte Tunes-ende lived here. In 1377 William atte Tunes-ende was rector of Middle Harling. They were all considerable

derable owners, and moſt of them ſealed with the preſent arms of the Townſend family.

On a very old muſket barrel that hung in the hall was this:—*Furius je ſuis, mais ſans feu, je ne puis*—which was thus tranſlated:

Full I am, 'tis true, of ire,
But can do nothing without fire.

In 1550 ſir Thomas Woodhouſe, of Waxham, knt. confirmed to Robert Barret two acres of meadow, which he had among other lands, of the grant of Edward VI. in the 2d year of his reign, it being given for an anniverſary to be kept here. Other lands were formerly held for charitable and religious purpoſes.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, having its nave and chancel, tiled, a ſquare tower, with a tall free-ſtone ſpire on it; there were but three bells till Joſhua Draper, eſq. when he reſided here, had them new run, and added two new ones.

Theſe arms were lately in the windows, though now ſeveral of them are loſt, the monuments here having ſuffered much when the old hall was pulled down, by the workmen working in the church: Harling, Tuddenham, Bardewell, Pakenham, Furneaux, and Denny. There were ſeveral effigies of the Bardewells, in red habits, (that being the colour of the field of their arms) and in the belfry window were Bardewell's and Seckford's arms.

On the ſouth ſide of the church was a chapel, dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, called Bardewell's chapel, not, as we imagine, becauſe that family was buried in it, (for we meet with none) but becauſe it belonged

belonged to Beaufo's manor, which came early to the Bardewells. This, in all probability, was founded by Nicholas de Beaufo, but whoever was its founder, he was interred, or rather immured, in its fouth wall, for it falling to decay very lately, a faculty was obtained to take it down, and in fo doing the body of the founder appeared to be laid in a ftone coffin, inclofed in the fouth wall, which (by the late patron's order) was preferved as it was found, and being covered with bricks, now lies undifturbed, in the nature of an altar-tomb. We are told there was a fmall filver thing, like a candleftick, in the coffin, but rather think it to have been a crucifix.

In this chapel there was but one ftone inferibed, and that being taken up, is now placed as an altar-tomb in the church-yard:—*Ann le Neve, daughter of Oliver le Neve, of Witchingham, efq. and Ann, fole daughter of fir John Gaudy, of Weft Harling, in this county, bart. who died Nov.* 29, 1689.

Moft of the Gaudys were buried in this chapel. The founder's tomb appeared on the outfide of the fouth wall, it had an arch turned over it, and the grave-ftone, or lid of the coffin, was about two feet from the ground.

In the window, over the tomb, was Gaudy, quartering Baffingbourne, impaling Wotton, Bardewell, Walcote, Pakenham, Furneaux, and Witchingham.

A black marble in the chancel, inferibed—*To Henry Creffener, once rector of this parifh, and of Elizabeth, his beloved wife. Henry, and John, his father, and Nicholas, his grandfather, were fucceffively rectors of this parifh for the fpace of* 130 *years, none of them ever contending in law fuits under unjuft extortions of their juft demands.*

demands. Henry, as a true ſon of the church, was of modeſt demeanour, a facetious converſation, a peaceable diſpoſition, an unlimited benevolence, a ſupport to the needy, a healer of breaches, a comforter of the afflicted, a help to the diſtreſſed. She died Nov. 8, 1719, *aged* 87. *He, Oct.* 19, 1730, *aged* 79.

The town land is about 5l. a year, which was given by Mrs. Margaret Gaudy to cloath poor widows, if there be any; if not, any poor people: it lies in Kenninghall and Banham, and the rent is received by the rector, and churchwardens, who apply it accordingly.

This rectory is valued with that of Middle Harling, which is conſolidated to it, in the king's books, at 9l. 18s. 4d. it hath a rectory-houſe, and outhouſes, and above eighty acres of glebe, together with a cullet of 100 ſheep going in the lord's fold, free of all charge. The prior of Buckenham's temporals were taxed at 1s. 1d. and the prior of Thetford's at 2s. 6d.

January 19, 1457, Robert Bardewell, eſq. had the rectories of Weſt and Middle Harling conſolidated; and in 1766 the Rev. Henry Pepperel was preſented by the late William Croftes, eſq. *p. j.* The Rev. Mr. John Warren is the preſent rector.

Middle Harling, formerly called Little Harling, lies in the midſt, between Weſt and Eaſt Harling, was held by Ulchetell, a Dane, in the Confeſſor's days, and by Anſchitell, his deſcendant, (or ſon, as the name intimates) in the Conqueror's; it was in Kenninghall Soken, and worth at firſt 6l. then raiſed to 7l. but fell again to 5l. The part in Weſt Harling which belonged to the Furneaux family, and alſo became Bardewell's manor, was valued with the reſt

at

at half a fee, all which were held in capite by Alan earl of Richmond, as part of his honor, at a whole fee; this and Weſt Harling, which was meaſured and taxed with it, was a league and half long, and a league broad, and paid 27d. gelt out of every 20s. raiſed in the hundred.

This manor was infeoffed in the Furneaux family by the earl of Richmond, along with Bergham, in Cambridgeſhire, of both which ſir Jeffrey de Furneaux, knt. was lord about 1180, and had his chief ſeat at Bergham; he had three ſons, and Jeffrey, the ſecond, held Harling, as of the manor of Bergham, it being given him by ſir Jeffrey, his father, and he was the firſt of the family that ſettled here. This manor continued with them ſome time.

Sir John de Furneaux, who was lord in 1286, gave his manor of Bardewell, in Weſt Harling, with Elizabeth, his daughter, to John de Bardewell. Afterwards Elizabeth Furneaux, a ſole heireſs of this family, married firſt to Robert Crabbe, whoſe widow ſhe was in 1401, in which year ſhe ſettled this manor and advowſon, with the reverſion of Kimberley manor, after the death of Margaret, late wife of ſir Thomas Faſtolf, knt. on ſir Thomas Erpingham, knt. &c. to her uſe for life, and her heirs in tail; after which ſhe married William Sandham, of Kimberley, who ſold Kimberley without her conſent, though ſhe gave him Harling for life; ſhe died in 1415. By her firſt huſband ſhe had two ſons, John, and William, who in 1424 ſued William Bardewell, eſq. for the manor; but ſir Thomas Erpingham proving that he and other feoffees had ſeiſin of it, to the uſe of Elizabeth Crabbe, his mother, for life, and then to John Crabbe, her ſon, and his heirs, it was confirmed to William Bardewell, eſq. and his heirs, in right

right of Eleanor Crabbe; he had the manor and advowson, all the feoffees releasing their rights in 1511; from which time it hath continued joined to West Harling, as it now remains.

The church was dedicated to St. Andrew the Apostle, being always appendant to the manor: it was a rectory valued at five marks at the Norwich taxation, and is now valued with West Harling to the land tax, there being four houses, and about thirty inhabitants. The church-yard is now eleke, the church remained in use till 1543, and then it was entirely taken down, so that the foundations only are now visible; it stood by the lane's side, in the eleke going to West Harling church.

John Michell, priest, was the last rector, Jan. 29, 1457, it being consolidated at that time to West Harling.

In 1321 sir John de Furneaux, knt. in open court injoined all the tenants of the manor, under the penalty of 12d. for every default, to dig a St. Andrew's cross on each piece of their land, when they sowed it, to avoid all disputes between the rectors of West and Middle Harling.

In 1344 the lord held a tenement, and nine acres, freehold, of the prior of the canons of the Holy Sepulchre, at Thetford, by the rent of 12d. a year, all which Amy Waterhenne held of the lord, by paying the prior his rent, and 1d. a year to the lord.

Robert Gildensleve died in 1444, and gave a messuage, called Purdye's, at Middle Harling-green, and nine acres of land, four acres and an half lying at Dedmore, and four acres and an half at Blowlond,

to the inhabitants of Middle-Harling *for ever*, who in 1556 brought their deeds into court, and proved that on April the 15th. 1547. Henry Cooper, then feoffee, made a new feoffment of Gildenfleve's to the use of the inhabitants, it being freehold, held of Bardewell's manor in West Harling, by fuit of court, and the rent of 6d. a year and one capon.

KENNINGHALL, or, as it is wrote in Doomfday book, CHENINGEHALA, is a town of large extent, and great antiquity, fo called from *Cyning*, which in Saxon fignifies a king, fo that Cyning, or Kinninghall, fignifies the king's houfe, and according to the etymology, it hath been a feat of the Eaft Anglian kings, who are faid to have had a caftle here, which indeed feems true: the fcite of it is now called the Candle-yards*; becaufe the offices for that purpofe were built in it when Thomas, the great duke of Norfolk, built the palace, this place being diftant enough to hinder the fmell reaching it. It is fouth-weft of the palace about a furlong, being a fquare of four acres, encompaffed with a fpacious trench; at each corner is a mount, but that to the fouth-eaft is much the largeft; the manor-houfe continued through all its changes in this place, until the duke pulled it down, and built that ftately houfe at the diftance before mentioned, which was after called Kenninghall palace, or place: it fronted eaft and weft, and was built in the form of an H. having a porter's lodge, and all things elfe in the grandeft manner: It was fituated in the midft of a large park, which contained 700 acres, well ftocked with deer, the north fide guarded with woods and groves, being diftant at leaft a mile from the town, which lies weftward; at

* Many urns have been found in this town, near the Candle-yards, which fhew as if the Romans had been here.

at the duke's attainder it was feized by the King, and fettled on the then lady Mary, who kept her court here. To this caftle (as Stowe calls it) was removed from Hunfdon in Herfordfhire, and buried reforted to her feveral lords and knights of this county, as fir John Shelton, fir Henry Bedingfield, fir Henry Jerningham, and others, at the death of Edward VI. from whence they went to Framlingham caftle: afterwards it was in Queen Elizabeth's hands, who was often here; fhe it was that entered her tenant, Chapman, who then lived in Freefield Lodge, to lay out the way now called Chapman's entry, out of her own ground, the old way being fo narrow, that the queen could not conveniently pafs through it; it is now difufed, and is called queen Befs's-lane, from her being fcratched with the brambles in riding through it, as tradition tells us. It continued in the Norfolk family, as their capital feat in this county, till about 1650, when it was pulled down, and the materials fold for a trifle, with which great numbers of chimneys and walls in the neighbourhood were built, as is evident from the Mowbray's, and Arundel's arms, which are upon the bricks. Spelman, in his Icenia, hath nothing more of this town, than that it was the feat of fome of the chiefeft barons. That it belonged to the crown in the moft early times is plain, for the Confeffor had it in his own hands, it being then worth 10l. a year, and five fextaries of honey, but it was rifen in the Conqueror's time to 24l. of unmixed money, to be paid by weight, and 6l. of counted money, which was paid by tale, and a fine at each king's acceffion; (for fo we take *Gerfuma* in the Saxon to fignify). It had a freeman and thirty acres belonging to it in Knattifhall, in Suffolk; and Weft Harling alfo was a berewick to it: It was then three miles long, and one mile broad, and

paid 25d. Dane-geld. It always was, and is now privileged as antient demeſne, the inhabitants being excuſed from toll, paſſage, and ſtallage, and from ſerving on any juries out of the Lordſhip, and paying towards the charges of the knights of the ſhire, upon renewing their writ of exemption on the death of every king, and having it annually allowed by the ſheriff of the county.

It remained but a little while in the crown, being given by the Conqueror to William de Albini, Albiniaco, or Albany, and his heirs, together with the Lordſhip of Buckenham, &c. to be held by the ſervice of being chief butler to the kings of England, on the day of their coronation, upon which account he was after called *Pincerna Regis.* It always went with Buckenham, till the diviſion of the Albany eſtate, between the four ſiſters and co-heireſſes of Hugh de Albini, who died without iſſue, leaving this manor in dower to Iſabel his wife, daughter of William earl Warren and Surrey, who in 1243 had it among others aſſigned to her by the king's licence; at her death it went to Roger de Montealt, or de-Montealto, who had married Cecily, one of the ſiſters and co-heireſſes of Hugh de Albany; this Robert died ſeiſed in 1274, leaving it to Robert de Montealt. In 1276 it was held in chief of the king, by the ſervice of butler, as aforeſaid, and had a certain capital meſſuage, called Eaſthall*, and another called a grainge, with a ruinous dove-houſe, and 400 acres of land, 100 of which are arable, and yearly worth 10l. beſides eighteen acres of meadow, worth 18d. each acre, a wind-mill lett for

* This was the name of the old houſe, before the duke of Norfolk built the palace, and was ſo called becauſe it ſtood eaſt of the town.

for 13s. 4d. a large park, the herbage of which is yearly worth 5l. and the underwood 40s a year. There was a market kept every Monday, lett at 10s. a year, and alſo a fair, lett at 2s. a year; the yearly quit-rents were 8l. payable by equal portions, at St. Martin, Chriſtmas, Eaſter and Midſummer; alſo 1200 days work in autumn, worth 1d. each day, alſo the fiſhery, called the Sewer, worth 2s. a year; the pleas, perquiſites of courts, and views of frankpledge, and leets belonging thereto, are yearly worth 8l. To this manor alſo belonged Guiltcroſs hundred; the pleas and perquiſites of the hundred court, with all the views of frankpledge and leets belonging thereto, were worth 5l. a year, the whole of the value being 44l. 15s. and the ſaid Robert had the manors of Riſing and Snettiſham, and the hundred of Smithdon, and the fourth part of Lynn Tolbooth unſettled, all which were valued at 80l. per ann. From this Robert it came to Roger de Montealt, who in 1286 had the following privileges allowed to this manor, viz. free-warren, view of frankpledge, aſſize of bread and ale, a pillory, ducking-ſtool, gallows, and waif, with a yearly fair, on the day of the tranſlation of St. Thomas Becket, and a weekly-market on Monday*. In the firſt year of Edward III. this Robert petitioned the barons of the Exchequer to be admitted chief butler on the coronation-day, by reaſon of his manor of Kenninghall, which office he recovered againſt the Earl of Arundel, who claimed it as belonging to his earldom; and he performed the office accordingly, and obtained a decree that that office henceforward ſhould be performed by the ſeveral lords of the manors of Kenninghall, Buckenham, and

* The fair is ſtill kept on that day, viz. July the 7th. The market hath been diſuſed many years.

Wymondham, or their deputies, by turns, upon proving that Hugh de Aubeny, late earl of Arundel, held theſe, and Snettiſham manors of Henry III. by the ſaid office, which he performed at that king's coronation, and died ſo ſeiſed, upon which Rockenham, and Wymondham, deſcended to ſir Robert de Fatcſhale, whoſe heir held them; and Kenninghall and Snettiſham came to the ſaid Robert de Montealt, or Mohaut, who held them; and at the coronation of Edward II. he claimed and offered to perform his part of the ſaid ſervice, in right of his ſaid manors; but Edmund Earl of Arundel by his great power (though he never had any of the ſaid manors) performed the ſaid ſervice, to the diſherſon of him, and his parcener, for which reaſon, at the coronation of Edward III. the ſaid Robert claimed and performed the whole ſervice, Fatcſhale's heirs being under age. The return upon ſearch of the records ſays, that as to Snettiſham having a turn in the office, they at preſent could find nothing of it, but that at the coronation of Eleanor, daughter of Hugh earl of Provence, grandmother to the preſent king, Hugh de Albani, then earl of Arundel, in right of theſe manors, and not of his earldom, ſerved the ſaid office by his deputy, the earl Warren, becauſe he was then excommunicated by the archbiſhop of Canterbury, for taking away the Archbiſhop's dogs from him, as he hunted in the ſaid earl's foreſt in Suſſex, the archbiſhop alledging, that he had a right to hunt in any foreſt in England, whenever he would. This office ſtill continues by turns to theſe manors, though in a petition directed to the lords commiſſioned to receive all claims of ſervices, to be performed at the coronation of queen Anne, by reaſon of their tenures, we find "that Charles earl of Carliſle, earl-marſhal of England, during the minority of Thomas duke of Norfolk, and

earl

earl of Arundel, who was then out of the realm, claimed to perform this ſervice in a double capacity, viz. in right of this manor, and of his earldom, ſetting forth, that he held the manor by this grand-ſerjeantry, which was performed in right of it, at the coronation of Eleanor aforeſaid, and at the coronation of Richard II. by the earl of Arundel and Surrey and of Henry IV. by Thomas then earl of Arundel and Surrey, and by Henry earl of Arundel at the coronation of Edward VI. in right (as was ſaid) of the earldom of Arundel, and by Henry duke of Norfolk, and earl of Arundel, by his deputy, at the coronation of king William and queen Mary, who then received all the fees and profits belonging to the office, viz. the beſt gold cup that the king drank out of on the coronation-day, with the cloths, napkins, and linen then uſed, the ewer both of gold and of ſilver, uſed that day in the king's wine-cellar, with all wine veſſels, pots, cups, goblets, &c." In 1327, a fine was levied between Sir Robert de Montealt, who was then ſteward of Cheſter, and Emma his wife, by which this manor was ſettled on themſelves, and their heirs male, remainder to Iſabel queen of England for life, and then to John of Eltham, the king's brother, in tail, remainder to Edward king of England, and his heirs: Robert and Emma had no male heirs, and ſo it came to queen Iſabel, and John of Eltham dying without heirs, the reverſion after the queen's death was in the king, who in 1336 gave it to ſir William de Monteacuto, or Montague, who upon paying the queen 600 marks had a releaſe from her, and immediate poſſeſſion of it; he died ſeiſed in 1343, leaving the manor to William de Montague, his ſon and heir, in whom it continued till 1377, and then he ſettled it upon ſir William Montague, knt. his ſon, upon his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter to Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arun-

del, and the iſſue of their bodies; but he being unhappily ſlain in a tilting at Windſor, by his own father, in 1382, he left no iſſue; upon his death Richard II. kept court here, but ſoon after delivered it up to Elizabeth, widow of the ſaid William, who, according to the ſettlement, enjoyed it for life, and at her death it was to revert to her father-in-law, William earl of Saliſbury, and lord of Man; it was this earl who, in 1345, (before he had ſettled it on his ſon) granted to Albred de Pakenham, of Garboldiſham, a fold-courſe for 300 ſheep, and 30 muttons, with common of paſture for his cattle, through the whole year, from a place called Howardſty, northward, partly to Kenninghall-gap, and from thence weſtward to Ringmere, and thence by the way leading from Kenninghall to Bury, as the way leads to Garboldiſham field, paying him a yearly rent for it, which right is now enjoyed as belonging to Garboldiſham, Uphall, or Pakenham's. This lady held the manor in 1388, at which time ſhe was married to Thomas Lord Mowbray, earl marſhal of England, who was to hold it for her life in her right, and this year Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel and Surrey, her father, purchaſed the perpetual inheritance of it of William Earl of Saliſbury aforeſaid, and had a fine levied to ſettle it on him and his heirs, but upon his attainder, in 1397, the king granted the reverſion of the manor, and hundred, they being forfeited to the crown, to Thomas de Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, and he being baniſhed the year following, the king granted it by letters patent, dated at Leiceſter, to John de Montague, earl of Saliſbury, his great favorite, to be held by him of the crown, in as free manner as William de Montague, his uncle, Richard earl of Arundel, or Thomas duke of Norfolk, ever held it; but he dying

dying in 1399. never enjoyed it, it being then held by Elizabeth dutchefs of Norfolk, who was then married to ſir Gerard Uſſlet, her third huſband. In 1411 Edmund Blankpaine is ſaid to hold the manor and hundred, as truſtee; and in 1422 it was ſettled by Elizabeth dutchefs of Norfolk, late wife of Gerard Uſſlet, on divers truſtees, to ſeveral uſes; this was upon her fourth marriage with ſir Robert Gowſhall, knt. who in 1426 held the manor and hundred in her right: ſhe died ſoon after; for in 1428 Thomas de Montague, earl of Saliſbury, died ſeiſed*, leaving them to Alice, his daughter by his firſt wife, then married to Richard Neville, eldeſt ſon to Ralph Neville, earl of Weſtmoreland, which Richard, on her account, was made earl of Saliſbury, and had livery of her lands this very year, but ſoon after he gave this manor, and hundred, in marriage with Joan, his daughter, to William Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel, who in the Feodary is ſaid then to hold it; he in all likelihood, ſold it to John Duke of Bedford, who about 1435 ſold it again to the prior of Thetford, in truſt for John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, who ſettled it on Elizabeth, his wife, for life, and their heirs; he died in 1475, and ſhe enjoyed it to her death, when it deſcended to ſir John Howard, knt. ſon of ſir Robert Howard, knt. by Margaret, his wife, who was one of the co-heireſſes of Thomas Mowbray, firſt duke of Norfolk, it being aſſigned to him as part of the half of the Mowbray's inheritance. This John was created Duke of Norfolk in 1483, by Richard III. and was ſlain with him in Boſworth-field, in 1485, at whoſe death it went to his

* Dug. Bar. vol. 1. p. 130. This is a miſtake of Mr. Dugdale, for it appears ſhe was after married to Robert Gowſhall, and did not die in 1424.

his eldeſt ſon, Thomas then earl of Surrey, and afterwards duke of Norfolk, he being reſtored in 1588 to that earldom and eſtate; in 1506 he had ſpecial livery of all the lands his father died ſeiſed of, was made earl-marſhal of England by Henry VIII. in the ſecond year of his reign, and afterwards duke of Norfolk; he died in 1524. leaving Thomas, his ſon, heir to his eſtate and honor: In 1537 the quit-rents were 33l. 3s. 11d. a year; the farm of the hundred 6l. 13s. 4d. the agiſtments of the park, and perquiſites of the fair, 5l. beſides the warren, wind-mill, and fiſhery. This Thomas being attainted, his eſtate was ſeized, and veſted on the lady Mary, who reſided here, but it was reſtored to him again, upon her coming to the crown, and he came and died here in 1547, leaving Thomas, his grandchild, his heir, who reſided here with Margaret, daughter of Thomas Audeley, baron Audeley, his ſecond wife, in 1560. He was beheaded in 1572†, from which time it paſſed with Forſfield manor, Charles Howard, duke of Norfolk, being now Lord.

In 1610 the quit-rents were 47l. 7s. 6d. the farm of the hundred 6l. 13s. 4d. the profits of the fair 5l. the keeper of the palace's wages per ann. 3l. 10d. the park-keeper's wages 3l. 10d. the gardener 4l. per ann. the whole park within the pale contained 700 acres. There was a rent paid out of the New Park, which was due to the late priory of Thetford, with which it came to the duke, and then ceaſed. In this year the townſmen purchaſed the ſheep-walk of the lord

† At his trial (the heads of which may be ſeen in Baker's Chron. fol. 499.) he was proceeded againſt by the name of "Thomas Duke of Norfolk, late of Kenyngale, in the county of Norfolk."

lord, and fo made their lands whole-year lands: at this time alfo the inhabitants paid a fmall fum to the lord, as an acknowledgment, or free-rent, for their new entrenched grounds, they having by conſent inclofed their common, called the Park Common, and appropriated the ſeveral parts to divers uſes; but this remained but a ſmall time, for the commoners diſagreeing among themſelves, they were all laid common as at firſt, though the banks and trenches are ſtill viſible.—*Blomfield.*

Kenninghall Place, or Palace. The ſcite of the ſuperb palace of the dukes of Norfolk, and their ancient capital manſion, is the property of William Pawlett, eſq. who ſerved in the laſt war with great reputation, and being called out again into ſervice on the breaking out of the American war, after behaving often with great gallantry, loſt his leg by a cannon ſhot in the trenches at Boſton, in New England: on his return to England he was ſhipwrecked on the Iſle of Scilly, and preſerved with great difficulty; being introduced to the king on his arrival at London, he was graciouſly received by his Majeſty, and preſented to the command of a company of invalids in the Iſle of Jerſey, which command he at preſent enjoys (1780). He married the daughter of ——— Howes, eſq. of Attleburgh, by whom he has two ſons, the eldeſt of whom, William, is a lieutenant in the weſtern regiment of Norfolk militia, under the command of the earl of Oxford, lord lieutenant in the county of Norfolk, and colonel in the army.

The cuſtoms of this manor and the rectory manor are the ſame, viz. the copyhold deſcends to the youngeſt ſon, the fine is certain, at 6d. an acre, they give dower, and the tenants can waſte their copyhold houſes

houſes, fell timber, plant, and cut down wood and timber on the waſte againſt their own lands, without licence.

The RECTORY MANOR went with the rectory till its appropriation, and then became part of the poſſeſſions of Buckenham priory till its diſſolution, and was then granted with the impropriation to the Norfolk family, forfeited at the duke's attainder in the time of queen Elizabeth to the crown, and by her, with the impropriation, given to the biſhopric of Ely, from which it was ſeized in the rebellion, and the manor only, in 1554, ſold by ſir John Wollaſton, and others, truſtees for ſale of biſhops lands, according to an ordnance of parliament, to Robert Benſon, and his heirs, it extending then into Quidenham, and Harling, the church and church-yard being excepted out of the conveyance as alſo all lands and tithes, except a meſſuage, or tenement, with the curtilages thereto belonging, called the Granary*, which belonged to the ſaid rectory. In 1657 it was again ſold by Robert Benſon, gent. for 149l. to Thomas Kendall, of Thetford, and Thomas Weſt, from whom it was ſeized by the biſhop of Ely at the reſtoration, and by him leaſed out, (the advowſon of the vicarage being excepted) and having paſſed through many hands, is at this time in Mr. Philips Gretton, clerk, who is now (Blomefield) by virtue of the biſhop's leaſe both lord and impropriator. This manor when the rectory was appropriated had a leet, and the amerciaments of all its own tenants, with the aſſize of bread and ale, and corrections of weights and meaſures, and alſo common of paſture, on a common called Suchach, or Southaugh, now Southwell, in the ſaid town, this common being appropriated to it.

* This was the old Guildhall that belonged to the pariſh before.

it. It was taxed in 1428, with the other ſpirituals of that priory in this town, at ſixteen marks.

This vicarage is valued at 5l. 7s. 1d. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 40l. is diſcharged from firſt fruits and tenths, though it ſtill anſwers 2s. for ſynodals, and 7s. 7d. ob. for procurations. there being a mean vicarage-houſe joining to the eaſt end of the church-yard, and five acres and a half of glebe. It was originally a rectory, in the gift of the lord of the manor, to which belonged a manor, and a good quantity of demeſne lands, and ſuch it continued till William de Albany, the ſecond earl of Arundel of that name, gave it to the priory of St. James, at Old Buckenham, which his father had founded: this William died the 4th of October, 1176, from which time the prior preſented to this rectory, till about 1223, and then, at the petition of Walter the then prior, and the convent there, Pandulf, biſhop of Norwich, appropriated it to that convent, reſerving power to ordain a vicarage worth eight marks a year, to be ſettled upon the vicar, which was accordingly done, and was to conſiſt, according to the endowment, (the original of which Mr. le Neve ſays is in the hands of the dean of Norwich) in all the altarage, and all other ſmall tithes whatſoever, together with the ſmall tithes of the earl's houſe, and all the hay, and great and ſmall tithes of 140 acres of free land, which belonged to the rectory before the appropriation, and in other things particularly mentioned in the endowment; by this means the convent got into their hands all the tithe corn, and the rectory-manor, with all its rents and profits, and moſt of the glebe. The rents of aſſize were 3l. 7s. a year, (as we learn from the accompt-book of that priory, fol. 2.) but for this they were obliged to give the nomination of the vicars for ever to the biſhop of Norwich,

wich, the bishops of which ever after nominated to the prior such persons as they pleased, and if they did not immediately present the person nominated, the bishop collated him according to the agreement; and least there should be any future claim from the lords of the manor of Kenninghall, to which the advowson formerly belonged, the prior and convent got Roger de Montealt, then lord, to confirm to them the advowson, manor, and appropriation. The presentation was afterwards in the dukes of Norfolk till 1634, when the bishop of Ely became patron; and it has continued in that see ever since.

The church is situate on a hill, having a large square tower at its west end, which was designed to be carried to a greater height, but was never finished, its head being shortened by the misfortunes of its founder, Thomas duke of Norfolk, whose crest remains on the buttresses at this time. Here are five very large tunable bells. The nave is forty yards long, and seven broad, having a porch joined to its south side, and an aile to its north, all which are covered with lead, and seem to be much older than the tower; the chancel is also leaded, and was built by John Milgate, the last prior of Buckenham, whose monument remains in the south wall, though it is robbed of its arms and inscription, which remained in Mr. Weaver's time; for he tells us, fol. 859, that it appeared by his tomb that he built the chancel, though there are two grand mistakes in his relation of it, for he is called there Shildgate, instead of Milgate, and said to be prior of Wymondham, instead of Buckenham; his arms are to be seen on a brick in the chancel wall, as also upon the wall of a house at Thompson, in which Roger Colman, clerk, dwelt, with the following under them:

Perpetuis

Perpetuis annis, Milgate memento Johannis.

And this motto: —*Help Hondis.*

By which it ſhould ſeem as if this houſe alſo was built by him; whether theſe were his paternal arms, or not, we cannot ſay, but rather think they were not.

In digging a grave for one Mr. Watts, near this tomb, they happened on a vault cloſe to the wall, in which this prior's bones till that time lay undiſturbed.

To the north ſide of the chancel joins a chapel, or chantry, now converted into a ſchool-houſe, and veſtry; it hath W. B. cut in ſtone over the north door; and in a window is a broken effigy, kneeling, and this:

Dominus michi gracia. in Domino confido.

A ſtone before the altar is robbed of a large braſs effigy and four ſhields, by which we learn, that it was the grave-ſtone of George Haffet, (or Bleverhaffet) eſq. who firſt married the daughter of Jarnegan, and after the daughter of L'Eſtrange; for we find in a manuſcript of Mr. Anſtis's, marked F. 26, fol. 23, that he is here buried under a fair grave-ſtone, with his arms quartered, and there is no ſtone here that ever had any arms, but this only, and the W. B. cut in ſtone over the door of the chantry might ſignify William Bleverhaffet, by whom it is very likely it might be founded.

In the nave are ſeveral ſtones pillaged of their braſſes, but on a very large one before the deſk, the portraitures of a woman, and five boys, and five girls, are ſtill left, the inſcription and man's effigy being loſt; under this ſtone it is probable Roger

Dennis

Dennis is interred, for whom, in Mr. Weaver's time, this was remaining:

Orate pro anima Rogery Dennys, Seneſchalli Caſtal : : : :

In the chancel is a ſmall altar-tomb againſt the north wall, having had an effigy, inſcription, circumſcription, and four ſhields, which are all gone: Weaver ſays it was erected for George lord Audley, and his wife, the daughter of the earl of Bath, and indeed the arms on the ſouth ſide of it, which are painted, and now whited over, did intimate that it was erected for ſome of that family, the firſt being Audeley.

Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and Margaret Audeley, his ſecond wife, reſided here in 1560, about which time he adorned the windows of the church with the following arms, ſome of which are now loſt:—Audeley quartering Touchet, in a garter; Audeley impaling Bourchier; Lovaine quartered with Audeley, and Fitz-Warren; Audeley impales Badeleſmere, duke of Buckingham, and Mowbray's arms; Howard, &c. In a garter, with a ducal coronet, four coats quartered, 1ſt. 2d. Howard, with the augmentation. 3d. earl Warren. 4th. Mowbray. And an inſcription, now defaced.

This duke's effigy in his coat armor, having his hatchment in the garter, was three times in one window, but all now gone.

In the eaſt chancel window is a large white roſe, the badge of the houſe of York; and England with a label of three points, arg. impaling lord Talbot, quartering ar. two lions paſſant gul. Mowbray ſingle, and Brotherton and Mowbray.

An

An altar-tomb at the weſt end of the aile—*To John Kett, late of Diſs, gentleman, who died October the 1ſt*, 1728, *aged* 76 *years*; *alſo Mary, his wife, who died Auguſt the* 21*ſt*, 1729.

There are four old ſtones in the nave in ſhape of coffins, but no inſcriptions: and on a ſtone in the wall of the porch is a horſe carved.

Though there are no memorials of any kind remaining over the places of their ſepulture, yet we find from the pariſh regiſter, that on the 30th day of June, *anno* 1593, here was buried Jane counteſs of Weſtmoreland, wife to Charles lord Neville, of Weſtmoreland, lord of Raby, Standrop, Branſpeth, Warkworth, Sheryhuton, and Midelham, daughter of Henry Howard, earl of Surrey, and ſiſter of Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk.

Here lieth alſo Elizabeth ducheſs of Norfolk, who was buried the 18th of September, 1567; ſhe was third wife to Thomas Howard, fourth duke of Norfolk, daughter of ſir Francis Leibourne, knt. and widow of Thomas lord D'Acre, of Gilleſland, and Greyſtock, in Cumberland.

Thomas duke of Norfolk, who died at his palace here in 1554, the 2d of queen Mary, is not buried here, (as by ſome aſſerted) but at Framlingham, in Suffolk.

On a coffin ſtone againſt the chancel, though at ſome diſtance,—*Here lieth the body of Robert Button, who died June the* 29*th. betwixt ſix and ſeven o'clock at night, aged* 74 *years.*—Though they were to punctual for the *hour*, they forgot to inſert the *year* of his death, which was in 1711.

This church is dedicated to St. Mary. The moſt eminent perſon that this town has produced, among our authors, was Brother John, of Kenninghall, who became a carmelite, or white friar, in the convent at Norwich, and afterwards was provincial friar of the whole order throughout all England; he died April 28, 1451, and was buried in that monaſtery. He wrote divers treatiſes on ſeveral pieces of Ariſtotle, and twelve ſermons upon Chriſt's death and reſurrection, with other works that are now loſt.

Bale, from Leland, gives us an account of another, who from his name ſeems to have belonged to this town, and that was Peter Keningall, a carmelite friar, and noted preacher, of a good family, born indeed in France, but of Engliſh parents; he ſtudied at Oxford for ſeveral years, died there, *anno* 1494, and was buried in his convent. He wrote certain ſermons, or diſcourſes to the people, and ſome diſputations.

The commons belonging to this town are very large, containing more than all the encloſed lands, and are thus called the Park Common, becauſe it joined to the park, Southache, or Southaugh, now Southwell common, the heath of which is appropriated for ſheep, (as the others are for great beaſts) beſides other ſmall greens, which are common, though of no great extent.

The town lands are, three pieces in Quidenham-fields, lett to a farmer at Quidenham for 10s. per ann. One acre in Gobbet's-cloſe, lett to the vicar (the reſt of that cloſe being glebe) for 6s. per ann. Barly-clove's hempland, lying againſt the park common, lett at 7s. 6d. per ann. One acre in Mill-cloſe, lett at 6s. per ann. One acre in Camping-cloſe, lett

at

at 6s. per ann. Five roods in Upper Furlong, and one acre in Pollfwill Furlong, lett at 10s. per ann. Hilbridge-clofe about two acres, lying by Harling-field, lett at 10s. per ann.

Mrs. Dorothy Gaudy gave 20s. a year, to be paid out of lands in Garboldifham, to the poor of Kenninghall.

In 1603 there were 370 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are about 114 houfes, 132 families, and 700 inhabitants. It paid to the tenths 3l. 10s. and is now valued to the king's tax at 10l. 15s. It is a neat compact village, ftanding round the market-place, which muft have been a very convenient one when the market was kept there.

Mr. Blomefield fays, he was lately informed that there is exactly 11 acres and one rood of glebe; that there is a cup which weighs fix ounces, and a cover of the fame weight; that the firft bell weighs 700lb. the fecond 1000, the third 1200, the fourth 1400, and the fifth 2500.

In 1770 the Rev. Lewis Jones was prefented to this vicarage by the lord bifhop of Ely.

LOPHAM joins to the fouth part of Kenninghall: what this town's name fignifies we know not, and what is remarkable, it never altered its fpelling from the Conqueror's time to this day, for in Doomfday-book we find it the fame. In the Confeffor's time Lopham was two diftinct towns, and different manors; Lopham *Magna*, now North Lopham, belonged to Offl, a free-man, his manor having three carucates of land in demefne; and the other Lopham, called afterwards Lopham *Parva*, and now South

Lopham, belonged to Alfius, a free-man, whofe manor then contained two carucates in demefne. This Alfius had a manor in Blo-Norton, which in the Conqueror's days he joined to this, making it a berewick to it, after which they came into the Conqueror's hands, who gave them to Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, who joined the two Lopham's, and granted off the Norton part to Alured, an Engliſhman; from this time Lopham hath continued as one manor to this day, though they are two diſtinct pariſhes, St. Nicholas, and St. Andrew, each having their ſeparate bounds and officers.

Roger Bigot, who was poſſeſſed of this manor at the ſurvey, died in 1107, and was buried in the abbey of Thetford, which he had built, leaving William his ſon and heir, who gave the church of Lopham to the monks of Thetford, in the time of Henry I. which was appropriated, and then confirmed to that houſe, with all it's appurtenances, by Henry II. This was South Lopham church, which by its conventual form, and Gothic tower, was in all likelihood built at this time, and 'tis probable ſome of thoſe monks had a cell here, and ſerved it for ſome time, and this is the reaſon that this church never had any inſtitution, though the monks quitted all their right in it to the lord, who had a releaſe of it from the abbey, and added it with the appurtenances to the rector of the other church, who took the cure upon him from that time; this muſt be very early, for before 1340 it was taxed at twenty-ſix marks, a value that muſt include the whole. This William being ſteward of the houſehold to Henry I. periſhed with that king's children, and divers other of the nobility, by ſhipwreck, as they came from Normandy into England, in the year 1119, leaving Hugh Bigot, his brother, his

his heir, who by king Stephen was made earl of the Eaſt Angles, or Norfolk, which was again confirmed to him by Henry II. together with the ſtewardſhip of that king's houſehold; yet, notwithſtanding all theſe favors, he took part with the earl of Leiceſter, in the rebellion began by him, adhering to young Henry (whom king Henry his father had crowned) in his rebellious practices, but meeting with no ſucceſs, he was forced to make his peace with the king, for a fine of 1000 marks, and not long after he went into the Holy-Land with the earl of Flanders, and there died in 1177, upon which the king ſeized all his treaſure, and retained it in his hands.

Roger Bigot, his ſon, inherited, who in 1189 was reſtored by Richard I. to his earldom, ſtewardſhip, and eſtate, upon paying a fine of 1000 marks for theſe favors: he died about 1218.

It continued in this family till 1269, when Roger Bigot had livery of that great inheritance, but he having no iſſue, in 1301 ſettled all his eſtate (except the manors of Acle and Caſtor, and the advowſon of Geldeſtone church, in Clavering, and others in Yorkſhire) upon Edward I. (after his and his wife Alice's death) together with the marſhal's rod, upon condition to be rendered back in caſe he ſhould have any children; though at the ſame time John Bigot, his own brother, and heir apparent, was living, who by this means was cut off from all, but the manors that were excepted. This Roger, jointly with Alice his wife, held this manor of the king's grant upon the ſettlement, at which time the manor-houſe had a demeſne of 335 acres of land, 15 of meadow, and 20 acres of paſture, with a park, two wind-mills, and the fourth part of Harling-mill: he

died about 1305. ſeiſed of this and many other manors, leaving John, his brother, his next heir, who inherited nothing but the part excepted, the eſtate going to Edward I. from which time it remained in the crown till Edward II. in the ninth year of his reign, gave it with the reſt of the Bigot eſtate to Thomas de Brotherton, his brother, whom he this year created earl of Norfolk, and marſhal of England; he died in 1338, leaving his two daughters his heireſſes, Alice, married to Edward de Monteacute, and Margaret, firſt married to John lord Segrave, and after to ſir Walter Manny, knt. of the garter, to whoſe ſhare this, among other manors, was allotted: In her right John de Segrave became lord and patron upon Thomas de Brotherton's death, and held it till he died in 1351, leaving Elizabeth his daughter and heireſs, then married to John, ſon of John lord Mowbray, though this manor remained in the aforeſaid Margaret's hands, and came to her ſecond huſband, ſir Walter de Manny, knt. who had it till he died in 1371, from which time it continued in the ſaid Margaret till the 24th of March, 1399, when ſhe died. She was created ducheſs of Norfolk for the term of her life, by Richard II. in 1397.

It appears that there were great uneaſineſſes between her and the lord Segrave, her firſt huſband, for ſhe went in perſon to Rome, in order to obtain a ſentence of divorce from him, of the Pope, having obtained letters of ſafe conduct for her and her retinue of the French king, notwithſtanding which ſhe and her ſervants were all arreſted, and taken in their journey, at the inſtigation as was thought of her huſband, who was then under excommunication for not going to Rome, according to the Pope's citation, though he had pleaded that, being a baron of

of England, he was not *compellable* to appear at that court; by this means he ſtopped her appearing againſt him at Rome at the day aſſigned, and the matter afterwards was made up between them; at her death it deſcended to Thomas lord Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, her grandſon, who in 1401 had this manor, though the advowſon and part of the demeſnes belonged to Elizabeth, his mother, in right of her dower; he never was duke, being beheaded at York, with Richard Scroope, Archb. of Canterbury, in 1405.

John, his brother, being his heir, was reſtored to the title of duke of Norfolk in 1424, and dying in 1432, John, his ſon, ſucceeded him; but this manor was aſſigned in dower to Catherine, his mother, daughter to Ralph Neville, earl of Weſtmoreland, who was afterwards married to Thomas Strangewayes, eſq. after that to John viſcount Beaumont, and laſtly to John Widvile, brother to Anthony earl Rivers, all whom were lords here in her right; at her death John duke of Norfolk, her ſon, enjoyed it, and died ſeiſed in 1461, and John, his ſon, inherited: he died in 1474, leaving Anne his ſole daughter, then two years old, afterwards married to Richard duke of York, ſecond ſon to Edward IV. who was murdered in the Tower in 1483, and dying iſſueleſs, it fell to the ſhare of ſir John Howard, knt. ſon of ſir Robert Howard, knt. and Margaret his wife, who was one of the two daughters and co-heireſſes of Thomas Mowbray, firſt duke of Norfolk, from which time it hath always attended the fate of that family, and is now the eſtate of Charles Howard, the preſent duke of Norfolk.

This manor was held as parcel of Earl Roger's barony, and in 1285 had view of frank-pledge, aſſize of bread and ale, and free-warren belonging

to it. In 1609, the quit-rents were above 21l. per ann. in 1641 the park was farmed at 390l. per ann.

The leet belongs to the manor, the cuſtoms of which are, that the fines are at the lord's will, the copyhold deſcends to the eldeſt ſon, the tenants can build, and pull down, fell timber, and plant on the waſte againſt their own lands without licence.

GOODSON'S MANOR, or FREE-TENEMENT, in North Lopham, was held of the hundred by the ſervice of 1s. a year, to which belonged many copy and free-holders, the whole at firſt contained a carucate of land, which was granted by earl Roger to Richard of Lopham, who died in 1194, in which year Ivo of Lopham, his ſon, gave 20s. to have a recognition of the death of his anceſtor for a carucate of land in Lopham, againſt Gundred the counteſs, and in 1198 the ſaid Ivo granted half of the ſaid carucate, with Ivo the ſteward of Lopham, his family, and poſterity, to earl Roger, and Gundred his counteſs, and agreed to hold the other half of them by the rent of 5s. a year, and 20s. 6d. ſcutage, ſo that now this free-tenement, as it was then called, contained half a carucate; the 5s. rent was afterwards releaſed, and it came to be held of the hundred, and not of the capital manor, at 1s. a year rent. In 1248 Henry of Lopham, the *chirurgeon*, had it, and in 1335, Henry, the ſon of Robert de Lopham*; afterwards it was owned by John Goodſon, vicar of Pakenham, whoſe name it ſtill retains: From this family it went to John Hawes, and from him to Robert Leader, then to John Leader,

* Of this family was Symon de Lopham, clerk in 1334, and Dioniſe de Lopham, his ſon, who was a famous notary public.

Leader, and from him to Robert Warnes the elder, and then to Robert Warnes the younger, who had it in 1635, by which time the copyhold was all manumiſed, and the free rents ſold off, all but 16s. 10d. 3q. a year. In 1684 Robert Warnes, ſon of the laſt Robert, held it, by the rent of 12d. a year, in lieu of all ſuit of court to the hundred. It afterwards belonged to Francis Bogas, gent. who died in 1692, leaving it to his widow, who afterwards married Mr. Samuel Browning, of Thetford, and at her death it went to Mr. Samuel Browning, his ſon, who ſold it to Mr. Thomas Saunders, of Thetford, but there are no rents now remaining.

The RECTORY MANOR always belonged to the rector, as it now doth, its cuſtoms being the ſame as the great manor; there is a rectory houſe, and forty-ſix acres and one rood of glebe, in South Lopham, and nine acres two roods and an half in North Lopham.

This rectory is valued at 17l. 5d. and is ſtill charged with firſt fruits, and 1l. 14s. ob. yearly tenths.

South Lopham church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, being built in the conventual form, the tower is ſquare, being a very large Gothic building†; in it are ſix good bells, the chancel is leaded, as is the nave, ſouth aile, and porch; there are no arms, nor inſcriptions, any where in it, except this

† The tower, as before obſerved, in all likelihood was built by William Bigot about the time he gave it to Thetford monks, but the preſent church was rebuilt long ſince, moſt likely by the pariſh, when Nicholas de Horton, rector here, rebuilt the chancel, between the years 1361 and 1380.

this on a ſtone in the chancel, very obſolete,—*Hic jacet dominus Willus Lirling.*

In Mr. Anſtis's book it appears the following arms were formerly here, viz. Segrave, Brotherton, Mowbray, Walter de Maney, Vere, Ufford, and arm. a bend gul. cotized or. Coote, impaling Harvey.

Chriſtopher Coote had a leaſe of this manor. Francis Coote, gentleman-uſher to queen Elizabeth, was buried in this chancel.

In the chancel the following inſcriptions were formerly on braſs plates:—*Orate pro animabus Rolandi Arſick, armigeri, ſecundi filij Eudonis Arſick, militis, qui Rolandus obijt* 17°. *die Febr.* 1497, *et Margaretæ uxoris ejus, filiæ Thomæ Huntingfield, de hac villa que quidem Margareta obijt* 25°. *die Octobris*, 1486, *quorum animabus propicietur Deus, Amen.*

Orate pro animabus Willi Hovell de Aſhfield, armigeri, et Elizabethe uxoris ejus, qui quidem Willus ob. 7°. *die Julij*, 1534, *duor: aiab; propicietur Deus, Amen.*

In 1526 Robert Saunder was buried in this church, who gave 20s. towards the repairs of the ſteeple.

North Lopham church is dedicated to St. Andrew the Apoſtle, the tower is ſquare, having five bells in it; it was begun to be rebuilt about 1479, but was not finiſhed till about 1526, for till that time moſt that died here left ſomething towards it; there were certainly a great number of benefactors, the initial letters of the names of the principal ones being carved in the ſtone-work on the ſouth-ſide, John Kailli, the principal undertaker's name, being at length.

The

The nave and chancel are thatched, the ſouth aile leaded, and the ſouth porch tiled.

In the ſouth window of the chancel a biſhop in his pontificalibus is repreſented as dead, lying along.

In the church is a black marble—*For Francis Bogas, gent. who died the 6th Day of July, anno Dom.* 1692;—with his arms.

Here were two guilds, one dedicated to St. John, the other to St. Peter, which were endowed with lands ſeized upon by the crown, in the 1ſt of Edward VI. and ſo continued till king Philip and queen Mary, in the 3d and 4th year of their reign, gave them to Thomas Reeve, and George Calton, who ſold them the ſame year to Thomas Brooke, and William Woodferme, who ſold them again immediately to the inhabitants, who now enjoy them, viz. a tenement and half an acre at the weſt end of the church-yard; three acres of land in North Lopham; the firſt is called St. John's Acre; becauſe it belonged to that guild, and lies in Well, or Wilbuſh-furlong. The ſecond is St. Peter's Acre, ſo called for the ſame reaſon; this abuts upon the common towards the weſt. The third is called Lamp Acre, and abuts on the glebe, and was given to maintain a lamp burning in the church, all which are now held of the manor of Eaſt Greenwich, by fealty only, without any payment, and were ſettled to the uſe of the poor.

In 1412 ſir Edmund Noon, knt. lord of Shelfhanger, granted a tenement, called Elwine's, and thirteen acres of land, part of his demeſnes, to Richard Boſſe, to be held free by him and his heirs for ever, by the payment of a red roſe every Midſummer-day, at Shelfhanger manor; all which lands, with

with others joined to them, he gave to this town to repair the church for ever; from which time it hath been held by feoffees, as it now is, and the profits applied to that uſe, it being now lett at 8l. per ann. Beſides theſe, here are other lands, &c. belonging to the inhabitants.

The other town lands are lett at 12l. per annum, whereof 1l. 10s. a year lies in Garboldiſham, and 1l. a year in South Lopham. Here is a town-houſe inhabited by five poor people.

In 1696 Mrs. Mary Williamſon, of Garboldiſham, gave a meadow, called Stulp Meadow, in Garboldiſham, and another meadow adjoining to it, to this pariſh, the church-wardens of which are annually to receive the rent, and to bind out a poor child every year to a trade, and if there be no poor child in the pariſh, then they are to lay it out to cloath the poor people of the ſaid pariſh.

South Lopham hath an eſtate of 30l. a year at Wortham, in Suffolk, which was given by one Purdy for the repairs of the church, and if there was any overplus, to charitable uſes, ſuch as the feoffees would apply it to, for the good of the town; the houſes and the greateſt part of the farm is freehold.

Tradition has it, that Purdy was a Wortham man, and a leper, and gave his eſtate to this town, becauſe they were willing he ſhould be buried among them, which Purdy was not; but this being a common ſtory told in moſt places where there are gifts of this nature, we look upon it as *tradition* only.

Here

Here are three ſmall cottages for the poor, by whom they are now inhabited.

This town hath alſo ſixty acres, called the Frith, taken off the common by the lord's conſent, of whom they now hold it; it is marſh ground, and lett at 8l. per ann. the income of which is given to the poor, by the feoffees, every Chriſtmas and Eaſter.

Alſo, a meſſuage, barn, and ſixteen acres of freehold land, lying in the pariſh, now rented at 15l. per ann. ſettled to repair and beautify the church for ever, and before the tenure of knight's ſervice was aboliſhed, it paid ſcutage and a relief of 2s. 2d. ob.

Not many years ſince the inhabitants purchaſed a freehold eſtate in Dickleburgh, rented at 8l. a year.

The commons contain as much land as the whole town beſide, on all which North and South Lopham are joint commoners, but no other pariſhes intercommon with them; they are called the Great, or Mill-common, North-green, North-common, and the Fenn-common, and the inhabitants heretofore had all Chimbrook-meadow for common, which they granted to the lord to make his fiſhery, agreeing to quit all right of commonage in it, and on all other the lord's waſtes on the eaſt ſide the Hundred-ditch, and Park-banks, for which the lord agreed to lay them out an equivalent of other lands upon their Great-common, which was done accordingly, reſerving the trees, furze, and buſhes, growing, or which ſhould ever hereafter grow on the lands ſo laid out, which privilege the lord ſtill enjoys, the lands being then called the Severals, and now the Allands, or Ollands.

In

In former times this town was moſt wood, though now it doth not more abound with it than its neighbouring towns; for it appears from a fine fued in 1383, that there was then great plenty. In that year the counteſs of Norfolk ſettled ſixty acres of wood, and the pannage and keeping one boar, and twenty-four ſwine, in her park here, with liberty of gathering acorns for three days, with twenty-five men, on herſelf, for life; remainder to the counteſs of Pembroke, for life; after to ſir John Haſtings, knt. earl of Pembroke, her ſon, and his heirs; remainder to the heirs of the counteſs.

The honor of Clare extended into this town, there being divers lands here formerly held thereof.

Robert de Cantuaria, rector of Lopham, was chaplain to Edward II. archdeacon of Eſſex, prebend of Cumb, in the church of Wells, and of Mapeſbury, in St. Paul's church, London, in 1331, and died about 1333.

There paſſed a decree about 1370, that neither the rectors of Lopham, nor their farmers, ſhould pay any tithe to Garboldiſham, though the lands lay in that pariſh.

Thomas Atte-Wode, rector here, was warden of Gonvile-hall, in Cambridge, in 1426, which he held to 1454; he was the firſt benefactor towards building the hall of that college, and the wardens old room. Dr. Caius (by miſtake) calls him Cotwood.

In Feb. 2, 1546, the right Rev. John Saliſbury, ſuffragan biſhop of Thetford, was preſented by the king; and during the rebellion in the time of James I. Thomas Ellis got poſſeſſion of this rectory, who

who held it by uſurpation till 1663, but was then deprived by ſix juſtices, upon the act for holding anabaptiſtical errors, and refuſing to baptize infants.

June 11, 1713, the Rev. Mr. Robert Hall, A. M. was preſented by Thomas duke of Norfolk, who ſome time after ſold the patronage to Dr. Hill, who hath obliged his heirs for ever to preſent a fellow of St. John's college, in Cambridge. Sir Rowland Hill is now patron. Mr. Hall publiſhed a volume of ſermons, and another of catechiſtical lectures, in octavo, and a ſermon on the peace.

In 1760 the Rev. Borlaſe Wingfield was preſented to the conſolidated rectory of Lopham St. Nicholas, and St. Andrew, by the Rev. Sir Rowland Hill, bart. of Hawkſtone, in Shropſhire.

This town is remarkable among the country people for the three wonders, (as they they call them); the firſt is, the ſelf-grown ſtile, being a tree grown in ſuch a manner, that it forms a regular ſtile, and ſerves for ſuch in a common foot-path. The ſecond is, the ox-foot ſtone, which lies in a meadow ſo called; it is a large ſtone of the pebble kind, on which is the fair impreſſion of an ox's foot, which ſeems to be natural; the fable of it is, that in a great dearth (no-body knows when) there came a cow conſtantly to that place, which ſuffered herſelf to be milked (as long as the dearth laſted) by the poor people, but when that decreaſed, ſhe ſtruck her foot againſt that ſtone, which made the impreſſion, and immediately diſappeared. The third is called Lopham-ford, at which place the rivers Little Ouſe, and Waveney, (thoſe diſagreeing brethren, as Spelman calls them) have their riſe, and though there is no greater diviſion than nine feet of ground, yet the former goes weſt by Thetford to

Lynn.

Lynn, and the latter, in a direct contrary courſe, by Diſs, and ſo to Yarmouth, including this whole county; Leland calls it Lopham-market, (without any authority) and ſays that it belonged to Richmond fee, being led into that error by its being the place where the gaol of the duke of Norfolk's liberty was kept, of which Swaffham is the head town in this county, where the coroner for the liberty generally reſided, and that town belonging to Richmond fee might poſſibly lead him into this miſtake.

QUIDENHAM, or QUIDDENHAM, is the next town eaſtward of Harling; the church of this village is dedicated to St. Andrew the apoſtle, and is a rectory, charged in the king's books at 8l. 4s. 9d. 1q. It hath a rectory-houſe, ſixty acres, one rood, and ſixteen perches of glebe. It was valued in the Norwich taxation at ten marks, and the temporals of the prior of Buckenham were taxed at 6s. 8d.

In 1603 the rector returned in his anſwer to James I. that there were eighty communicants here.

The church is a ſmall building, having its nave, chancel, and ſouth porch, tiled; the ſouth aile and north dormitory, leaded, a ſmall ſteeple, round at bottom, and octangular at top, in which are three bells.

A mural monument on the ſouth ſide of the chancel, with the arms of Crompton, impaling Holland, —*For Katherine Holland, wife and relict of Robert Crompton; ſhe died Nov.* 1653, *at Mildenhall, in Suffolk.*

A mural monument at the north-eaſt end of the north wall, with Holland impaling Panton,—*In memory*

mory of Lady Alathea Sandys, daughter of John Panton, esq. firſt married with William lord Sandys, afterwards with ſir John Holland, who died May 22, 1679, *aged* 69.

Under this is an altar-tomb covered with a black marble, with Holland, Knevet, and Wigmore,—*To Sir Thomas Holland, knt. who died February* 5, 1625, *aged* 48.

A black marble on the floor, by this tomb.—*To lady Holland, the ſecond wife of ſir Thomas Holland, and wife to Mr. Edward Barker, buried in the year* 1648.

On a mural monument againſt the north chancel wall, more weſt, with Holland and Panton.—*Sir John Holland, who erected this monument for himſelf* 17 *years before his death, maryed the Lady Alathea Sandys; he was ſent a commiſſioner from the parliament to K. C. the Firſt, and received marks of royal favour; he lived an honour, as well as benefactor to his family, being eminent for his perticular abilities and integrity, and dyed the* 19*th of Jan.* 1700, *after he was created baronet* 72 *yeares, and in the* 98*th yeare of his age.*

In a ſouth chancel window is the effigy of the Virgin holding a wafer, on which is this: *Hic eſtis je.*

Upon old ſtalls in the chancel are the arms of Vere, Bardolph, Harling, Plantagenet, Garnith, Uſford, &c.

In the parſonage window is an eagle ſnatching a piece of a ſacrifice, with ſome of the fire ſticking to it, which being carried to her neſt, fires it, and burns her young; under the flaming neſt is the following:

So let him feare, whoe'ere he be that dare
Purloin God's tribute, and the churches ſhare.

And round the oval is this:—*It is deſtructive to devour that which is holy.*

Here are thirteen acres, three roods, and twenty perches of town land in divers pieces, all which (with the glebe) are abuttalled in a ſurvey of the manor, taken in 1587. The rent was 5l. per ann. paid to the church-wardens and overſeers for the relief of the poor, and repairs of the church.

The vicar of Kenninghall hath two acres of glebe in Quidenham-field, in the furlong between Semere and Redmere, and three roods in Brymleye-furlong, intermixed with the lands of Mr. James Foſter; and Kenninghall pariſh hath one acre and three roods, in divers pieces in the field. At the ſurvey aforeſaid, the yearly out-going rents of the manor were theſe; to Kenninghall manor, for Hockham's tenement in Quidenham, 16s. 8d. for Thomas Atbridge's tenement there, 16s. 5d. for the foldage and paſturing of the lord's flock of Quidenham, upon the ling of Kenninghall, three days in a week, 1s. to the ſame manor for the going of five ſcore ſheep more upon the ſame ling 6s. 8d. to the hundred court at Michaelmas 4s. ſuit fine 4d. blanch farm 2d to the ſheriff's turn 6d. for froward rent to be paid on Whit-Sunday 2d. In all 2l. 5s. 11d. To Banham manor yearly 44s. alſo 4s. 5d. ob. free-rent 2d. for forwath, 5s. for paſturing great beaſts on the moor, 5s. and 3 capons, for 200 ſheep going on the moor, from Lammas time till weaning, and ſhack in the adjoining field, to the manor of Eokenham 4d.

The

The Meer, called Semere, belongs to this manor, two thirds of which is in this parish, and the rest in the parish of Kenninghall; it contains about fourteen acres of water, and had a decoy formerly.

Redemere, or Reedmere, lies on the right hand of the road to Kenninghall, and is now quite grown up, there being no remains of it, but a large reedy swamp.

The hall is a good seat, pleasantly situated. In the library there was a fine Missal with this wrote in it:

Virgo, parens vixit, sexaginta tribus annis,
Quatuor et decem fuit in parta salutari,
Triginta tribus, cum nato vixerat ejus,
Terque decem annis, postquam Deus ostra petivit.

In the dormitory of the church, on the north side, there are seven coffins of lead: 1. Sir John Holland, the first baronet of the family. 2. Lady Alethea Sandys, his wife. 3. Thomas Holland, esq. of Bury St. Edmund, their son. 4. Sir John Holland, bart. his son. 5. Lady Rebecca Paston, his wife. 6. Sir William Holland, bart. their son. 7. Elizabeth Holland, his sister.

In 1729, at the bottom of the lime pits in this parish, was found a large copper medal, thus circumscribed, ANTONINUS. P. P. T R. COS. II. on the reverse a genius, and S. C. by which it seems as if the Romans had worked in these pits.

This town paid to the tenths 3l. 10s. is now assessed at 274l. 10s. and hath nine houses, and

about fifty inhabitants. Leet-fee to the hundred is 2s. per ann.

Quidenham, Cuidenham, or Guidenham, undoubtedly fignifies *Villa Guidonis*, or the country feat of one Guido, or Guy, but who he was we know not, one part of it was Godwic's, a free-man, under the protection of the abbot of Bury, who held it three years after William I. came into the realm; but Godwin Awnd, a man of earl Ralfh's, unjuftly took it from him; the foc was at firft in Kenninghall, it was worth 15s. and after 30s. it was then a mile and a quarter long, and a mile broad, and paid 17d. 1q. geld, being at the furvey in the king's hands, who had taken it from Godwin, and committed it to earl Godrick's care.

Another part was given by the Conqueror, to be held at a fee and half, to William de Albany, earl of Arundel and Suffex, who gave one fee of it to Warine de Munchenfie, who granted it to Miles Haftings, againft whom William, fon of Warine de Munchenfie, in 1194, brought his action to recover it, but to no purpofe; this was after held at one fee of the Munchenfies, lords of Winfarthing, and their fucceffors, who held it of Buckenham-caftle.

The other half fee was given by the faid earl, in the time of Henry I. to the monks of Reading, in Berkfhire, in pure alms, who were obliged to grant it to Ralfh, firnamed the Great, (*Magnus*) conditionally, that he and his fucceffors fhould for ever pay an annual rent of one mark, for the health of his own, his anceftors, and fucceffors fouls, to make a good dinner, or repaft, in that convent,

convent †, on his uncle Joſceline's anniverſary. It contained a carucate of 100 acres of land in Quidenham, Kenninghall, and Attlebuigh, and fifty acres in Riddleſworth, and divers rents and ſervices, with common of paſture on all the commons in Quidenham, and a fold-courſe there: From this Ralfh it came to Brian, his ſon, who ſettled it on William de Hockham, for life, and in 1198 Wimar, his ſon, had it confirmed to him and his heirs, by William Earl of Arundel and Suſſex, from whom it was called

HOCKHAM'S MANOR, or FREE-TENEMENT. John, another ſon of Brian, agreed to this confirmation, and in 1200 Wimar, and John, jointly conveyed it to Miles Haſtings, of Quidenham, who joined it to his other part, with which it now continues; it was always held of the manor of Kenninghall, as of the caſtle of Buckenham.

One manor and moiety of the advowſon belonged to Bury abbey, with the whole ſock of it, in the time of king Edward, and was in the abbot's hands till Baldwin, abbot there, infeoffed his brother Frodo in it, in the Conqueror's time, who infeoffed Joſceline, who held it at the ſurvey; this Joſceline was ſirnamed de Loddene, or Loddon, and was uncle to William de Albani, earl of Suſſex. In 1196 Ernald de Charneles had it, between whom, and Sampſon abbot of Bury, there was a fine levied this year, by which he acknowledged, that he held it at one fee of the abbot, by the ſervice of 20s. ſcutage, and caſtle-guard to Norwich; it then extended into Quidenham, Acle, Turiſton, Elingham, and Norton, and in 1199 it was in

† The donations of this nature, in colleges, are now called *exceedings*.

Miles de Haſtings, a younger ſon of William de Haſtings, ſteward to Henry I.

Miles, his ſon and heir, was lord in 1264, being then married to Dioniſe, daughter of Peter Goldington, of Goldington, in Bedfordſhire. In the roll of the rebels, and adverſaries to Henry III. and prince Edward, his ſon, after the battles of Lewes and Evelham, this Miles was found to be one, being then lord and patron, and holding eighty acres in demeſne, all which were ſeized, it being proved that he had taken the barons part; it was afterwards reſtored, as all thoſe eſtates were which were ſeized upon this account; his brother, William de Haſtings, lived here. Miles de Haſtings, ſon of Miles, was lord of Stoke-Goldington, and Cavendiſh, in Suffolk, Elesford, in Oxfordſhire, and Dayleford, in Worceſterſhire, in which family they continued till after 1345. In 1355 John de Harling purchaſed a third part of the manor and advowſon of William Furneaux, of Sheffield, who married one of the three daughters and co-heireſſes of Miles Haſtings, and another third part, anno 1362, of ſir William de Ingaldeſthorpe, knt. and Eleanor his wife, and in 1371 the other third part of Tho. Caus and James de Heigham, by which means he had the whole manor, from which time it paſſed as Eaſt Harling, till ſir Edmund Bedingfield ſold Harling, and continued this in his family.

Falconer's Manor was made up of different parts; it belonged at the ſurvey to Roger Bigot, and went to Walter Bigot, of Forncet, a younger brother of that family, and from him to Richard Bigot, his ſon, who conveyed a part to Ralfh of Kenninghall, called the Falconer. Edmund de Bello Campo, or Beauchamp, had thirty acres of it, and the

the moiety of the advowſon; he left it to John de Beauchamp, his ſon, who in 1287, by deed enrolled in the King's-bench, granted it to Edward, ſon of ſir William Charles, knt. of whom it was purchaſed by Miles Haſtings, who joined it to his manor, and ſo had the whole advowſon: Another part went to Simon Bigot, who was lord in 1280, John le Falconer being then lord of Richard Bigot's tenement. In this year Richard le Baxter, and Agatha Maynwaryn, are ſaid to have a manor here, but it was only a part of Maynwaryn's manor in Eaſt-Harling, that extended hither, and from after John le Falconer got Simon Bigot's part, and ſo became lord of both; William Haſtings, of Quidenham, gave Simon Falconer, father of John, a meſſuage and lands here, which he added to this manor and Maud de Haſtings conveyed a quarter of a fee out of her manor to him, this whole manor being then held of her manor at half a fee, and paid 20s. relief, and from the time it was purchaſed by Ralfh le Falconer, and always went as Falconer's manor, in Eaſt-Harling,

The manor which belonged to the family, ſirnamed de Quidenham, was joined to this by one of the Falconers. William de Quidenham lived in the time of Henry II. Hugh, who died in 1319, was the laſt of this family that was lord, though it did not extinguiſh till after 1400, for then William Quidenham lived at Quidenham.

The family ſirnamed De-ponte de Quidenham, or atte Brygge, continued here from the time of Henry III. to about 1500, and had a free-tenement held of Kenninghall manor, at 16s. 5d. a year, which is now joined to the other manor; and thus all the manors and free-tenements became joined in

ſir Henry Bedingfield, knight of the bath, in right of the heireſs of the Tudenham's; he left it to Peter Bedingfield, his fourth ſon, who ſettled here: he had two wives; by his laſt, who was daughter of John Moninges, of Greynford, in Kent, he had John Bedingfield, eſq. his ſon and heir, who married Alice, daughter of Humphrey Kervile, of Wigenhall St. Mary's, who out-lived him, and after married ſir John Sulyard, knt. who was lord here in 1550, her firſt huſband dying Jan. 1, 1545: at her death Humprhey Bedingfield, eſq. her ſon, became lord, who in 1572 ſold it to John Holland, gent. and his heirs.

Holand, or Holland. This honourable family flouriſhed in the time of the Confeſſor, and took their name either from Holand, in Weſt Derby hundred, in the county of Lancaſter, or from Holand in Lincolnſhire, both which were the antient poſſeſſions of this houſe. Sir Otho de Holland lived before the conqueſt, and left ſir Stephen, his ſon, whoſe grandſon, ſir Ralph, lived at the conqueſt, and held divers lands of the Conqueror's gift.

Sir Robert de Holland, knt. who was ſummoned a baron of parliament, July 29, in the 8th of Edward II. *anno* 1314, founded the priory of Black Monks at Holand in Lancaſhire; by his wife, Maud, daughter and co-heireſs to Alan, lord Aſhby de-la-Zouch, he had a numerous iſſue; his eldeſt ſon, Robert, was a baron in parliament in the time of Edward III. and and dying without iſſue male, left only Maud, married to John Lovell, of Tichmarſh, afterwards Lord Lovell.

Sir Otho, Otes, or Eton Holland, knight of the garter, was at the ſiege of Calais, attended with three

three eſquires, where he was taken priſoner †, he bore a croſs patée gul. upon the ſhoulder of his lion, for his gentilitial diſtinction: ſir Thomas Holland alſo was at that ſiege, attended by four eſquires, and four archers on horſeback, he was ſummoned as a baron in parliament the 27th of Edward III. and was earl of Kent, and baron Wake, of Liddell, in right of Joan, his wife, ſiſter and heireſs to John Plantagenet, earl of Kent, and of his wife Margaret, ſiſter and heir to Thomas lord Wake, which lady afterwards married the Black Prince. From this Thomas proceeded the Hollands, earls of Kent, one of which was advanced to the dignity of duke of Surrey; and by a younger ſon, the dukes of Exeter, and earls of Huntingdon, ſome time enjoying the title of Earl of Ivery, in Normandy, and Edward Holland, Earl of Montaigne: The line of Kent expired the 5th of Edward IV. for want of male iſſue, as did alſo about that time the lines of Exeter and Huntingdon; their lives are written at large in Mr. Dugdale's Baronage, from fol. 73, to fol. 83 of the ſecond vol. for which reaſon there is no occaſion to repeat it here.

The fourth ſon of ſir Robert de Holland, firſt mentioned, was John, who by the daughter and heireſs of ſir Andrew de Medeſtede was progenitor to the Hollands of Weare, in Devonſhire, his 5th ſon was William of Denton, in Lancaſhire, and from him branched the Hollands of Clifton, and

† From the roll of the knights that were with the noble and victorious prince, King Edward III. in his wars in France and Normandy, and at his winning of Caen and Calais. In the hands of Mr. Gooch Waites, of Lynn.

and from them, by a second son, the Hollands of Sutton.

Brian Holland, Esq. of Denton-hall, was the first of the family that settled in Norfolk.

Among the evidences of the Hollands, there is a very large genealogical table of the family of the Hollands in Lincolnshire, from which house all the families of this name are descended. It was collected by George Holland, one of the family, in 1563, and continued since to 1601. It begins thus: "Estovinghall, here ensueth the pedigree of the "Hollandes of the house of Estovenhall, in the "partes of Holland, in the countie of Lincolne, "and do dwell there, without alteration or change, "eyther of house or name, by xiiith descent before "the conqueste, &c."

Sir Ralph Holland, who descended in a direct line from that sir Ralph that lived in the Conqueror's time, was entombed in Swinesheud abbey, in Lincolnshire, *anno* 1262, as were also others of this noble family.

In 1340 Thomas Holland married the *Devilish Dame*, called Elizabeth, daughter to sir Piers Tempest, knt. he spent his life in the Holy-land, and came home but every 7th year; Thomas Holland was first comptroller of the household, and after treasurer to the Duke of Richmond, and Hamond Holland, his brother, was first apprentice in London, and after, *by great conjectures**, was thought to be of great authority under the Grand Turk.

"The

* Vide Blomefield.

"The country of Holland being at the Conqueſt very ſtrong, by abundance of waters, the Hollands, the Welles, and the lords of Kyme, being confederate together (as old men, from man to man have credibly reported) kept out the Conqueror by force, till at length he had it by compoſition and agreement, that they ſhould keep their lands ſtill, and ſo the grant to the Hollands at that time from the Conqueror †."

But to return to the Norfolk family. Brian Holland, of Denton-houſe, in Lancaſhire, eſq. lived in the time of Henry VII. whoſe ſon, John Holland, gent. of Wortwell-hall, in Redde-hall, in Norfolk, ſervant and truſtee to the Duke of Norfolk, died Feb. 10, 1542. His eldeſt ſon was John Holland, a divine, exiled by Queen Mary for his religion, whoſe ſon, Philemon Holland, D. D. the great tranſlator, was born about 1551, and had two ſons, 1. Henry Holland, author of the *Heroologia Anglica*, born about 1582, alive 1040; 2. a younger brother, author of *Hollandi Poſthuma*. *Brian Holland of Wortwell, eſq. eſcheator of Norfolk,

† George Holland's account of his own family.

* Thuanus in his hiſtory, vol. 2. p. 520, ſays, that one Brian Holland was executed in 1569, by Catlyn the chief juſtice, for the conſpiracy in which the duke of Norfolk was principal, (whoſe family the Hollands ſerved faithfully, being their truſtees and chief managers of their eſtate in this county): whether he means this Brian, we cannot poſitively ſay, but imagine he does, and if ſo, his being executed is a miſtake, for we find a pardon paſſed the ſeal March 8, 1573, by which the queen out of her abundant grace, at the humble requeſt of John Holland, eſq. pardoned Brian Holland, late of Redenhall, gent. his father, and Edward Fiſher, late of Cringleford, yeoman, who were indicted for being in a conſpiracy with John Appleyard, of Norwich, eſq. John Throgmorton, of the ſame, gent. George Redman, late of Cringleford,

folk, in the year 1549 married Katherine, daughter and heireſs of Peter Payne of Roudham, in Norfolk, who died in 1583, and left Roudham, Newhall, and Truſbutt's manors to her; their ſon and heir, John Holland, of Wortwell, eſq. in the year 1586, is commended as an ingenious painter, in a book, called "the excellent Art of Painting," page 29. He purchaſed Quidenham, and Buckenham park, and married Mary, daughter of ſir Edmund Windham, of Felbrigg, by whom he had ſir Thomas Holland, of Quidenham, knt. and of Wortwell-hall, who died Feb. 25, 1629, aged forty-eight years; he was buried here, and died ſeiſed of Sexton's manor in Icklingham, with the advowſon of St. James's church there. He was knighted by James I. at Greenwich, May 24, 1628: he married, firſt, Mary, daughter of ſir Thomas Knevet, of Aſhwellthorpe,

ford, gent. and Thomas Brook, late of Rolleſby, gent. with abundance more, unlawfully aſſembled at Cringleford, on the 24th of June, in the 12th year of her reign (which was 1569, the ſame year that Brian is ſaid to have ſuffered,) deſigning treaſonably to compaſs the queen's death, and to make open war againſt her in her realm, and that they put ſuch conſpiracy in effect on the 25th day of June, at Trowſe in the ſaid county, and at divers other times and places in the county, with arms offenſive and defenſive, "as hand-gonnes, daggers, piſtolets, privie coats, and coats of defence," and that at Trowſe on the ſaid day, and at other times and places, they openly declared theſe words, "We will procure the commons "to riſe, and expulſe the ſtrangers out of the city of Nor-"wiche, and other places in England, and when we have le-"vied a powre, we will loke about us, and ſo many as will "not take our partes, we will hang them up:" And the ſaid Brian and Edward Fiſher, with Chriſtopher Platers, of Norwich, gent. Clement Harwarde, of the ſame, gent. Anthony Nolloth, of Yarmouth, gent. and John Rocheſter, of Norwich, yeoman, well knowing the traiterous deſigns of Appleyard and his rebels, and their intentions, yet went to Cringleford on the 24th of June, to be aiding and abetting to their treaſonable deſigns.

Aſhwellthorpe, knt. ſhe died in childbed; ſecond, Mary, daughter and ſole heireſs of ſir Edward Wigmore, of Twickenham, in Middleſex, knt. he was ſucceeded by John Holland, born at Aſhwellthorpe in the year 1603, was receiver, chief ſteward, and keeper of the earl of Arundel's park at Kenninghall in 1626, created bart. June 15, in the fifth year of Charles I. 1629, being the 288th baronet by creation; he died here in 1700; his wife was Alathea, daughter and co-heireſs of John Panton, of Brinſap, in Denbighſhire, widow of William Lord Sandys, of the Vine in Hampſhire: By her he had ſeveral children; the eldeſt, Thomas Holland, Eſq. died before his father, in the year 1698: by Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Mead, of Loſts, in Eſſex, eſq. he had ſir John Holland, of Quidenham, bart. who married lady Rebecca, youngeſt daughter of William Paſton, of Oxnead, earl of Yarmouth, and had iſſue, firſt, Charles and Elizabeth, who died young; ſecond, ſir William Holland, of Quidenham, bart. married to the daughter of Mr. Upton, a Spaniſh merchant; third, Iſabella-Diana Holland; and fourth, Charlotte Holland, ſole heireſſes of ſir William Holland, who died without iſſue.

Quidenham was the ancient ſeat of ſir William Holland, bart. who at his deceaſe left two ſiſters, Iſabella-Diana, and Charlotte Holland, his heireſſes, who in 1731 preſented the late rector, Mr. Hall, to this living, on the reſignation of the Rev. James Baldwin, a learned divine, rector of Bunwell and Carleton-Rode.

Mr. Briſtol, a Portugal merchant, and brother to the widow of the late earl of Buckinghamſhire, and father to Mrs. Hobart, wife of the honorable Henry Hobart, youngeſt brother to the preſent earl of Buckingham

Buckingham, purchaſed Quidenham of the Holland family.

The late earl of Albemarle, commander in chief of his majeſty's forces at the reduction of the Havannah in 1762, and knight of the garter, purchaſed Quidenham, with the manor, and whole town, of Mr. Briſtol. His lordſhip married a daughter of ſir John Miller bart. of Chicheſter, the preſent dowager lady Albemarle, and left a ſon by her, George, the preſent earl of Albemarle, a minor.

Quidenham park was greatly improved by the late earl of Albemarle, is a fine ſituation, and for water and wood may vie with moſt of the parks in the county of Norfolk. The houſe is a good old family houſe: probably, had the late earl lived, he would have built a new one, having ſo many beautiful ſpots in the park to ſet it upon, and indeed the many plantations he enriched the park with ſeem to have been arranged with that deſign.

Kenninghall church and village, and the village of Eccles, adjoining to Quidenham, ſeem as formed and traced out on purpoſe to give additional beauty to the park at Quidenham, by the fine proſpects they afford.

RIDLESWORTH is a rectory to which Gaſthorpe is conſolidated, both being ſworn of the clear value of 48l. 9s. ob. and at 4l. 13s. 4d. in the king's books. It hath a rectory-houſe, and twenty-nine acres three roods of glebe.—The temporals of Thetford monks here were taxed at 10s.

This town is called in Doomſday-book Redelefuuorda, that is, the *word*, or village, abounding with

with reeds; it belonged to Orgar, a free-man, at the Confeſſor's ſurvey, and to Humfrey, ſon of Alberic, at the Conqueror's, who had only this in the county; it was half a league long, and as much broad, and paid 11d. ob. geld.

This afterwards became the lordſhip of Ralph Peverell, of whoſe honor of Peverell it was held at the fourth part of a fee.

In 1255 Jeffrey Tregoz held this manor of the king at a quarter of a fee, of whom Peter de Meallings, or Melding, of Burſton, held it by that ſervice; this Peter in 1249 had ſettled it by fine on Henry de Bathonia, juſtice itinerant, and Philip de Flegg releaſed his right to him; Aliva, relict of Henry, died in 1273, leaving it to John, her ſon and heir, who in 1276 was ſummoned to attend Edward I. in his expedition againſt the Welſh: in 1290 he held it of Remigius de Melding; and John de Bathun dying this year, left only Joan, his daughter and heireſs, who married John de Bohun, or Boun. In 1379 it was held of Simon de Furneaux, as of his manor of Middle Harling, who held it of Robert de Montealt, and he of Remigius de Melding.

In 1330 Thomas le Archer, rector of Elmſete, and Richard, his brother, were lords; and this year they ſettled it by fine on Roger le Archer, of Elmſete, in right of his wife, Agnes, heireſs to John de Bohun.

In 1345 Roger, ſon of Roger le Archer, held it of Tregoz, and he of the king.

In 1384 ſir John Roos, knt. preſented, and had it in right of Beatrice, his wife, the heireſs of Roger le Archer, who preſented in 1393, being then a widow;

at her death their two daughters inherited; Ann married Thomas Sakevyle, and Cecily, Chriſtopher L'Eſtrange, eſq. on whom it was ſettled by fine, for their lives; remainder to Thomas Sakevyle, and Ann, his wife, and their heirs, it being now held of Thomas Rookes, eſq. who held it of John duke of Bedford, as parcel of Richmond honor.

Thomas Rookes, ſon of the ſaid Thomas, became lord and patron about 1456, whether in right of Elizabeth, his wife, or not, we cannot ſay, and ſo continued to 1515; and then ſold it, and levied a fine to ſir William Waldegrave, and ſir Philip Calthorpe, knts. from which family it came to the Drurys*, who took their name from a village in Normandy, whence their anceſtor came with William the Conqueror, and had no other name than that of Drury; his ſon, John Drury, eſq. ſettled at Thurſton, in the county of Suffolk; at which place John, his ſon, Henry, his grandſon, and John, his great grandſon, lived many years. Henry Drury, of Thurſton, eſq. ſon of the laſt John, had two wives; by Hawiſe Greene, of Barkway, his firſt wife, he had three ſons, the two youngeſt of which, viz. Nigell, was ſheriff of London, and ſir Roger was parſon of Bradfield, in Suffolk; John Drury, of Thurſton, eſq. the eldeſt ſon and heir, married Amable, daughter of Thomas Newton, eſq. by whom he had ſir Roger Drury, parſon of Beketon, and Nicholas Drury, of Thurſton, eſq.

* There is (ſays Blomefield) an exceeding fine pedigree of this family in lady Drury's hands, with all its numerous branches, in which the lives and honorable actions of many of the family are ſet forth at large upon good authority, the deeds and records being quoted for what is ſaid; but having no opportunity to make proper extracts, I could add nothing to this account, (which I had collected before) elſe ſhould not have paſſed by ſuch an ancient family in ſuch a curſory manner.

eſq. his eldeſt ſon and heir, who married Joan, daughter and heireſs of ſir Simon Saxham, of Thurlton aforeſaid, by whom he had three ſons: ſir Roger Drury, of Rougham, in Suffolk, knt. was his eldeſt ſon; he and his deſcendants bore the paternal coat, as it had hitherto been always borne, without a croſs tau, but with a label of three points, as the cognizance of the eldeſt branch: John Drury, the third ſon, bore the ſame arms, with his proper difference: Nicholas Drury, of Saxham, the ſecond ſon, went to the Holy Land, at which time he added the croſs tau to his arms, which he after bore, as did all his deſcendants; he married Joan Heath, of Mildenhall, by whom he had two ſons; Henry Drury, of Ickworth, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, and Roger Drury, of Hauſted, in Suffolk, his ſecond ſon, who had three wives; by Amy, his firſt wife, he had no iſſue; Ann, his third wife, was daughter and coheireſs of William Hanningfield, of Suffolk, and by Felice, daughter of William Denſton, of Beſthorpe, in Norfolk, he had three ſons and one daughter, viz. John, his eldeſt ſon; William Drury, of Beſthorpe, his ſecond ſon, from whom deſcended the Drurys, of Beſthorpe; Catherine, married to ſir Henry L'Eſtrange, of Hunſtanton; and ſir Robert Drury, of Halſted, or Hauſted, knt. privy counſellor to Henry VII. his third ſon, married Ann, eldeſt daughter of ſir William Calthorpe, knt. from whom the Drurys, of Ridleſworth, are deſcended.

Sir Robert Drury, of Egerly, in Bucks, ſecond ſon of ſir Robert Drury, of Halſted, preſented here as truſtee to his ſon and daughter, and died about 1575; he fought a duel with his couſin, ſir William Woodhouſe, of Waxham, in which both were wounded.

Sir Drue Drury, of Linſted, in Kent, knt. gentleman uſher of the privy chamber to queen Elizabeth, third ſon of Sir Robert Drury, of Egerly, died April 29. 1617, aged 99 years, and was buried here; he built Ridleſworth-hall, and was the firſt of this family that ſettled there; he was one of the keepers of Mary Queen of Scots before ſhe was beheaded, and ſome time governor of the Tower. Sir Drue Drury, his ſon and heir, was born October 7, 1588; married the 28th of June, 1608; created baronet the 7th of May, 1627, and died in 1632: by marriage both moieties of this eſtate was brought into the Drurys. He was ſucceeded by ſir Drue Drury, bart. whoſe ſon, ſir Robert Drury, bart. died April 7, 1712, without iſſue; he married for his third wife, Diana, daughter of G. Vilet, of Pinkeney-Hall, in Norfolk, eſq. who held the manor and advowſon for life. The Rev. Mr. Wake married a ſiſter of ſir Robert Drury's, whoſe ſon, Mr. William Wake, after lady Drury's death, was heir to the eſtate. Sir William Wake, bart. of Courteen-hall, in Northamptonſhire, and member in parliament for Bedford, is the preſent proprietor, and lord of Ridleſworth.

The leet belongs to the hundred, the leet fee being 2s. and all liberties belong to the leet, the lords of this manor never claiming any, it not being once named in the returns to the *quo warrantos*. The manor pays a rent of 7s. per ann. to the duke of Norfolk, as to his hundred of Guilteroſs. There was a rent of 1d. a year paid to the lord of Middle Harling manor, of which it was held by the ſaid payment, and ſuit of court, for which Thomas Sakevyle, lord of Ridleſworth in 1472, was diſtrained, as was ſir Drue Drury, knt. in 1589, and again in 1598, when he had two horſes ſeized for this and other rents, for lands he held in Ridleſworth.

The

The cuſtoms are theſe: the eldeſt ſon is heir, and the fine is at the lord's will. This manor is become very ſmall, the whole town being purchaſed in, ſo that there are not above four or five acres held by copy of court roll of it.

Here are (Blomefield) three houſes, and about thirty inhabitants; it is now aſſeſſed at 17ol. to the land tax.

The family ſirnamed de Redelefworth, or Ridlefworth, is very ancient, and had a good eſtate here, and in Gaſthorpe, where they were ſome time lords, ſo early as 1380.

In 1289 Peter de Redelefworth had a tenement and lands of the gift of Robert de Montealt, lord of the hundred, which he held by knight's ſervice, and 3s. 4d. relief.

In 1371 Thomas Peter de Ridlefworth was lord of Gaſthorpe, and Weſthall, and died in 1422.

In 1438 Thomas de Ridelefworth ſeoffed his manor of Weſthall on ſir William Berdewell, and Robert Berdewell, his ſon, who inherited about 1450. Agnes and Margaret, ſiſters of the ſaid Thomas, dying without iſſue.

In the hall there are ſeveral family pictures, ſome of which are much injured, and a curious old painting on board, containing ten perſons, each having his arms, or a cypher, over his head, and an inſcription at his feet. 1. Johannes de Lacy, conſtable of Cheſter, and firſt founder of St. Beuno's abbey, at Stanlowe, in Cheſhire. 2. Roger de Lacy conſtable of Cheſter, the ſecond founder of that abbey. 3.

John de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, the third founder. 4. Edmund de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, the fourth founder. 5. Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, the fifth founder, who tranſlated or removed the religious of this abbey to Whaley, in Lancaſhire. 6. St. Thomas earl of Lancaſter, ſon-in-law and heir of Henry de Lacy; D'Angleterre Lambell de Fraunce. 7. Henry Griſmond, earl of Lancaſter, brother and heir of St. Thomas. 8. Henry, the firſt duke of Lancaſter, ſon and heir of Henry earl of Lancaſter. 9. John of Gaunt, ſecond duke of Lancaſter, brother-in-law and heir of Henry duke of Lancaſter: gul. a caſtle or. (he being king of Caſtile) quartering, or. a lion ramp. az. 10. Henry IV. third duke of Lancaſter, and king of England: arms of England.

James earl of Deſmond, *anno* 1600. Mr. Henrye Birde, preacher, *anno* 1583, *ætat.* 66. *Spero ſed non ſpiro.*

Mr. Thomas Alderſey, *anno* 1588, *ætat.* 66.—Sir Robert Drury, knt.—Robert Drury, eſq.—Drue Drury, *anno* 1556, *ætat.* 24, *Droit et devaunt.*

Sir William Drury, lord chief juſtice of Ireland, by whom hangs an old plan of Edinburgh caſtle, and two armies before it, round which is this: "Sir "William Drurye, knt. general of the Engliſhe "wanne, Edenburghe-caſtle, 1573." On the picture is this: "Sir William Drurye, knt. marſhall of Bar-"wicke, lord general of this jorny, and after lord "preſident of Munſter, and laſtly died lord juſtice of "Inland, *anno* 1579." The creſt and arms of Drury, without the tau, with fourteen coats, all which are imperfect.

The

The arms of the following perſons are alſo moſt of them imperfect, but their names remain, all which were with the lord general at the ſiege:—Mr. Henry Killigray, ambaſſador; ſir George Carie, knt. ſir Thomas Cecil, eldeſt ſon to lord Burleigh; ſir Francis Truſbill, knt. ſir Henry Lee, knt. Mr. Michael Carie; Mr. Henry Carie; Mr. William Knowles, afterwards knight; Mr. Dieyr; Mr. Cotton; Mr. Thomas Sutton; Mr. Kelwaye; ſir William Selbye; Mr. Tilney; ſir William Killegray.

Ann Drury, 1597, *æt.* 12.—Frances Drury, 1597, *æt.* 11.

Sir Walter Mildmay, knt. *æt.* 52. 153—*Virtute non vi.*—Sir Francis Ruſſell; ſir Robert Bell, lord chief baron, *æt.* 41; lady St. John, 1599; lady Catharine, counteſs of Huntingdon.

A picture of one of the Jermyn family, on which is the creſt and arms of Jermyn, Ruſhbrook, Heveningham, Jervill, Giffing, Redſham, Reppes, Bargoine, and Boteſham.—Motto,—*Nec ab oriente, nec ab occidente.*

Frances counteſs of Hertford, 1596. Edward earl of Hertford, 1580. Peregrine lord Willoughby, of Erſeby. John lord of St. John of Bletſoe. Mr. George Allington, *en Dieu eſt tout*, with his creſt and arms.

A man writing theſe words:—*De governoure vent gratia.*

Anno 1601, *ætat.* 24, and theſe *imperfect* verſes:
Sardanapalus ait, pereunt mortalia cuncta,
Ut crepitu - - - - - - - - - - : podice diſiliens

Quæ pereunt - - - fugiuntque similima fumo:
Aurea quam - - - - - nil nisi fumus erunt,
At mens culta viro, post funera clarior extat
- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - vana volat.

An archbishop of Canterbury, with this motto :—*Vincit qui patitur, ætat* 68.—Catherine lady Drury. Sir Drue Drury, knt. *ætat.* 68, 1599.—*Droyt et devaunt.*

Sir Drue Drury that built the house; his wife on one side, a lady, daughter of Lovell, on the other side; his arms on the house are, Drury, with the tau, quartering Finch, Waldegrave, impaling Derham, quartering gul. a chev. vair, fab. & arg. between three crowns of the second.

The church hath a square tower and one bell; the nave and south porch are thatched, the chancel tiled.

In 1474 Thomas Nelde, of this town, held three acres freehold of Middle Harling manor, to the use of this parish, to repair the church for ever.

In the chancel, against the south wall, is an altar-tomb of black and white marble, on which is this inscription :—*Memoriæ sacræ Roberti Drury, baronetti, filij Drugonis Drury, baronetti, antiqua prosapia oriundi, multis retro sæculis præclara, ingenij dotibus ornati, politiore literatura imbuti, tres duxit uxores, tertia fuit Diana, filia Georgij Vilet, de Pinkney-Hall, in comitatu Norfolciæ, armigeri, quæ pietate vera, & amore conjugali, hoc monumentum posuit; obijt vigesimo septimo die Aprilis, anno Domini* 1712, *ætatis suæ* 78°.—Drury impaling Vilet.

On two flat marbles at the altar, Drury's arms and crest, impaling Harsnet.—*Here lieth the body of Dame Elinor*

Elinor Drury, second daughter of Samuel Warfurt, of Great Franſham, in Norfolk, esq. the relict of William Marſham, of Stratton Strawleſs, gent. the second wife of ſir Robert Drury, of Riddiſworth, in the county of Norfolk, bart. who was unfortunately killed in the fatal hurricane, Nov. the 27th, in the year of our Lord, 1703.*

Fiſher's arms in a lozenge.—*In memory of the pious and virtuous Mrs. Mary Fiſher*, whoſe ſoul took her flight to heaven in the furious hurricane, on Nov. the 27th, 1703. This monument of reſpect is dedicated by her true and faithful lover, Anthony Drury, of Meadham, in Norfolk, gent.*

In the eaſt chancel window is a hatchment with the arms of Drury, quartering Harſnet, and Marſham.

Againſt the north chancel wall is a fine monument for ſir Drue Drury, whoſe effigy is in armor, in a kneeling poſture, under a canopy ſupported by two angels; a book lies on a deſk before him, the monument being adorned with the arms of Drury, and other families; Drury alſo impales Wingfield, Deane, Boteler, &c.

'Condignæ famæ & memoriæ ſacrum. nobilis & 'illuſtris viri Drugonis Drury, militis, filij tertij 'Roberti Drury, de Egerly, in comitatu Buckingham, filij ſecundi Roberti Drury, de Haſted, in comitatu Suffolke, militum, reginæ Elizabethæ, a 'primo regni anno, ſolius ſilentiarij, deinde Jacobo 'regi noſtro, & anno 1596, prætoris Turris Londinenſis, (annos nonaginta novem, ſumma cum laude, & integritate complevit) bis conjugio connexi, primo

 'mo

* Theſe two ladies were killed as they lay together in bed, by a fall of a ſtack of chimnies.

'mo Dominæ Elizæ: Woodhouſe, filij Philippi Calthorp, militis, ſecundo, Katherinæ Finch, filij & hæride Gulielmi Finch, de Linſted, in com: Cant: ar: per ſecundam uxorem relictæ Drugo Drury, 'unicus filius ejus, uxorem duxit annam ætate primam, et unam ex cohæredibus Edwardi Waldegrave, 'de Lawford, in comitatu Eſſex, armig: Elizabethæ 'prima ejus filia, nupta fuit venerabili Thomæ 'Wingefield, militi, de Leveringham, in comitatu 'Suffolke, Anna, filia ſecunda Johanni Deane, de 'Deane, aula comitat: Eſſex predicto, et Franceſca 'filia tertia Roberto Botler, de Woodhall, in comitat: 'Hertford: militibus ipſe Drugo Drury miles præ-'clarus, ſingulari integritate, pietate, virtute, (et nulli 'in terris inferior) charitate præcipue precellens, apud 'Ridleſworth in comitatu Norfolke, 29 Aprilis, '1617, mortem (obijt)†."

On an altar-tomb againſt the north wall,—'Repo-'nuntur hic reliquiæ Drugonis Drurii, primi hujus 'familiæ baronetti, filij et hæredis Drugonis Drurij, 'eqñitis aurati, qui poſt 24 connubij ſui cum Anna 'Waldegrave prædilecta ſua uxore evolutos ſoles, 'triplici (ex octo natis) tenera et in minoritate, multæ 'tamen plena ſpei ſuperſtite ſobole, Drugone, Gu-'lielmo, & Catherina, in 44 peregrinationes ſuæ 'anno, ex hac miſeriarum eremo, 1632, in Cœleſtem 'migravit patriam, multiplici quin & candida, mundo 'amiciſque valde lugentibus, relicta fama, magnæ 'ſuæ erga Deum veramque religionem pietatis, aſſi-'duæ & laborioſæ pro republica curæ, ac integerri-'mæ verſus amicos, interiores præſertim ac vicinis, 'fidelitatis*".

There is a hatchment over the north church door with the arms of Attwood—*Ex funera vita*—to Richard

† Le Neve, vol. 1. p. 592 * *Ibidem*, p. 140.

chard Attwood, A. M. who died May 3, 1704, aged 56; and—*Juxta humatur frater ejus, Gulielmus Attwood, mercator Indiæ Occidentalis, qui terra marique, multa passus, in tuto jam a malis requiescit, obijt Oct.* 17, 1730, *ætatis* 57.

December 9, 1681, this church of Ridlesworth was consolidated with Gasthorpe; and in 1767 the Rev. Charles Wake was presented to the rectory by lady Sarah Wake, widow of the late sir William Wake, bart.

RUSHFOOD, or RUSHWORTH*, or the place abounding with rushes, (for so we take the name to signify) was in king Edward's days one league and a half long, one mile broad, and paid 11d. ob. gelt; at the first survey the abbey of Ely had a carucate of land, then worth 20s. but was sunk to 8s. value at the second; it was soon after held of the earl of Gloucester, at a quarter of a fee, by the heirs of Bartholomew de Beaumont, who in some records (by mistake) is called Breamysson; but in the time of Henry III. this part was in Nicholas de Gonvile, whose son and heir, John de Gonvile, in the reign of Edward I. paid 10s. relief for it to the earl of Gloucester, from which time it continued in that family, joined to the head manor, till the foundation of the college, on which it was settled; and when the head manor came to the college, was joined to it again, and so hath continued ever since. This part was some time called Boldam's manor, and seems to lie on the Suffolk side, except a part of it, which was in Shadwell.

At the first survey one Uluric had sixty acres here, which he held of the abbey, all which he forfeited to the

* In Doomsday-book it is wrote Rusceuuorda, and Riseurda.

the Conqueror by not paying 8l. that he had forfeited to that king, who gave it to John, nephew of Waleram, from whom it came to Roger Bigot with the above, who gave it to the monks of Thetford, together with Gunner, of Ridlesworth, and his land, when he founded that monastery.

Of the CAPITAL MAMOR Bundo was the first lord that we meet with, and then Ulketel; afterwards it came to the earls Warren, from them to the Bardolphs, who held it by the service of half a fee of the castle at Acre; from the Bardolphs it came to the Lerlings, and was held by them by the same service, as belonging to the Bardolphs honor of Wormegay.

Sir Ralph de Lerling, knt. was lord and patron of Lerling and Rushworth, and Newton, in Cambridgeshire. In 1218 sir Richard de Lerling, his son, purchased a moiety of Lerling advowson of Richard de Denevere; and in 1252 had free warren allowed him in all his lands in the aforesaid towns, and in Fouldon and Palgrave.

Maud de Lerling, the heiress-general of the family, (but whose daughter she was we do not find) married William de Gonvile in 1304, and carried the estate to that family. This William de Gonvile in 1285 had the king's protection, being summoned to go into France with him, to join the French king against the king of Arragon. He was succeeded by sir Edmund Gonvile, priest, founder of Rushworth college, o Gonvile hall, in Cambridge, and (as some say) of the friars preachers in Thetford, and of St. John's hospital, at Lynn; he was first rector of Thelvetham, or Feltam, in Suffolk, instituted December the 4th, 1320, by Adam de Tyryngtone, rector of Hopton, his proxy, he being then in priest's orders; he resigned

ſigned this for Ruſhworth rectory in 1326, and after he had eſtabliſhed it a collegiate church, in 1342, he was inſtituted to Terrington, of which he died rector in 1350.

Sir Nicholas de Gonvile, knt. was brother and heir to ſir Edmund de Gonvile, the founder, whoſe ſon, John Gonvile, eſq. paid 10s. relief for his manor in Schadwell and Ruſhworth, of his own inheritance, to the earl of Glouceſter, and 10s. for Ruſhworth manor, which was of his grandfather's inheritance. In this family it remained till Joan, or Jane, heireſs-general of Gonvile, married ſir Robert Herling, knt. whoſe only daughter and heireſs, Ann, married, firſt, ſir William Chamberlain, knight of the garter, buried with his wife under the arched tomb in Eaſt Harling chancel; ſecond, ſir Robert Wingfield, knt. third, John lord Scroop, of Bolton; by his will, dated 1494, at Eaſt Harling, he ordered, if he died in Norfolk (as he did, viz. July 12, 1494, at Harling) to be buried in the Black Friars at Thetford. She married lord Scroop in 1492, was a great benefactreſs to this college, and died in 1500.

In 1470, in the 10th of Edward IV. this lady procured licence for the maſter and fellows to receive forty marks per ann. in mortmain, upon which ſhe and her truſtees ſettled her manors of Ruſhworth and Larling, then valued at 20l. a year, in part of the ſaid ſum of forty marks, and thenceforward they continued in the college till its diſſolution, and then paſſed with it to the earl of Surrey.

There was another manor, or capital meſſuage, in this town, and in Brettenham, Bridgeham, and Thetford, held at half a fee of the honor of Clare, by William de Brettenham, and John de Brookediſh, in 1297, and

and by Robert Baygnard, and others, in 1383. In 1411, May 8, Henry IV. licenſed Hugh Stoppuſly to grant the whole in mortmain to the prior of the monks at Thetford, on condition that the king ſhould be paid 50s. every vacancy. It went with that houſe at its diſſolution to the Norfolks, and at the duke's attainder fell to the crown.

In 1591 queen Elizabeth granted to William Tipper, and Robert Dawe, and their heirs, all the manor, fiſhery, lands, foldages, &c. in Ruſhworth, Thetford, and Gaſthorpe, in Norfolk, and Suffolk, which late belonged to the monks at Thetford, to be held by the rent of 2s. per ann. of her manor of Eaſt Greenwich, in foccage, and not in *capite*, and ſoon after it was joined to Ruſhworth manor, with which it now remains.

As to the ſeparate fiſhery belonging to it, that lay in Shadwell, or Schadewell (which is a hamlet to Ruſhworth) and extended from Shadwell-mill to Berdewell's-mill, in Harling Thorpe, on the ſouth ſide of the river, and had liberty of a boat, and a pool, or wear, towards the latter end of the 12th century Philip de Schadewell, who lived by the river, owned it. In 1362 Adam de Schadewell conveyed it to William de Rothyng, parſon of Weſt Harling, &c. and their heirs, by the name of Eaſt-fenn-fiſhery. In 1399 James de Brettenham had it, and ſold it to Thomas Gardiner, clerk; and in 1411 it was conveyed to Thetford priory as aforeſaid.

In 1252 the abbot of Waltham, in Eſſex, had lands here, and in Scarning and Guiſt, in all which he had free-warren allowed him, for which he paid a rent of 12d. a year to Gonvile's manor.

Shadwell

Shadwell is a hamlet to Rufhworth, fo called from a well, or ſpring, which riſes among the trees upon the hill's ſide, it being plainly the *ſhad-well*. In this hamlet the father of the preſent proprietor, John Buxton, eſq. built an handſome lodge, called Shadwell-lodge. This gentleman being an excellent architect, built ſeveral ſeats in this county, of which Bixley-Hall, near Norwich, the ſeat of the late ſir Randall Ward, bart. was one.

John Buxton, eſq. the preſent proprietor, has made a very extenſive water here, and ornamented the country round, naked and barren before, with many beautiful plantations (1779).

Rufhworth was a rectory, and ſo continued till ſir Edmund Gonevyle, or Gonvile, who was both patron and rector, founded a college for a cuſtos, or maſter, and five chaplains, who were brethren, or fellows, and were to elect their maſter, and preſent him at Larling to the founder's heirs, who if there were there, were to preſent him to the biſhop, and not otherwiſe, after which he was to be inſtalled by mandate to the archdeacon; upon this foundation the church was appropriated to the college, and no vicar endowed, becauſe the cure of the parith was wholly laid upon the maſter, and each of them paid eight marks firſt-fruits at their inſtallation; at the diſſolution it was granted to be held in the ſame manner as the maſter held it, ſo that it hath been ſerved ever ſince by a ſtipendiary curate, nominated by the impropriator, who in 1603 was returned in the anſwers of the parſons to receive 15l. a year of the proprietary for his ſtipend, Thomas Wolf, clerk, being then curate, there being then ſixty-ſix communicants in the pariſh, and now (Blomefield) there are ſeven or eight houſes, and about ſixty inhabitants.

Guilt-

October 5, 1326, ſir Edmund de Gonvile, prieſt, was preſented by ſir Nicholas Gonvile, knt. patron. This ſir Edmund, while he was rector, perfected his foundation, which he is ſaid to have deſigned as a ſeminary for Gonvile-hall, in Cambridge; he was the laſt rector, and had quitted this church before Jan. 20, 1342; for then he was inſtituted into Terrington, in Marſhland.

January 21, 1371, ſir Thomas le Mey was elected by the fellows, who had no preſentation, the Gonviles being not reſident at Larling: the fellows election was returned to the biſhop, and the mandate made out upon it; at every admiſſion the maſter was ſworn by the biſhop to obſerve the ſtatutes, to alienate nothing, to make no new feoffments, not to mortgage, nor pawn any thing belonging to the college, whether moveable, or immoveable, without the conſent of every member.

Alexander Thelyk, prieſt, late fellow, obtained licence from pope Gregory XII. dated June 3. 1409. that one benifice more, with cure of ſouls, might be appropriated to the maſterſhip, and that he might hold it with the maſterſhip; but if any maſter holds a benefice with his maſterſhip before one be appropriated to it, he ſhall not receive his ſtipend of 50s. per ann. over and above the benefit of the church of Ruſhworth, as he uſually did before this licence. The petition to obtain this ſets forth, "that the college was founded by ſir Edmund Gunvyle, late rector, the rectory being turned into a collegiate church, for a cuſtos, or maſter, and five brethren chaplains, to pray for him, his anceſtors, ſucceſſors, and benefactors, which maſter was to have the cure of ſouls, and the benefit of the church there, and that he deſigned to endow it much better, but died in the mean

mean time." The biſhop conſented to this licence, and in 1414 this Alexander was preſented to the rectory of Larling, by the fellows, and held it with his maſterſhip to his death, yet notwithſtanding the pope's bull, and the king's licence upon it, they could never get their rectory of Larling appropriated to them, as they deſigned.

July 17, 1529, George Windham, A. M. archdeacon of Norwich, was elected maſter, who was the laſt maſter, it being diſſolved in his time; he continued archdeacon till 1543.

The ſcite of this college, with all the revenues thereto belonging, viz. the impropriation, college manor, in Ruſhworth, Larling manor and advowſon, and a manor in Elden, in Suffolk, were granted to the earl of Surrey, to be held *in capite* by knight's ſervice. In 1545, Henry earl of Surrey, by the king's licence, aliened a manor in Elden, and two manors in Ruſhworth, one in Suffolk, and the other in Norfolk, together with the ſcite of the college, and the impropriate rectory, with the other revenues of that college, in Fakenham, Thetford, Weſton, and Shadwell, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, by whoſe attainder they fell again to the crown, where they continued till Edward VI. in 1550, granted Ruſhworth manors and rectory to ſir John Cheke, knt. and his heirs, who in 1552 let them for twenty years to George Allington, of Stoke, by Clare, in Suffolk, gent. who had married his ſiſter; in 1557 ſir Richard Fulmerſton had the manor, late the college's: In 1570 the earl of Surrey had the manor, late the Fulmerſtons; in 1600 the rectory and ſcite of the college, &c. were granted to lord Howard, of Walden, who had licence in 1601 to ſell it to Robert Buxton, on whoſe

whose

whole was ſettled by fine, and at this time it continues in his family, John Buxton, eſq. being now owner of both the manors and impropriation.

There is a rank of ten or eleven *tumuli*, or mounts of earth, in the field between Ruſhford, Euſton, Barnham, and Thetford, where (Mr. Blomefield verily believes) was fought that dreadful battle between king Edmund and the Danes, in the year 871.

This indeed ſeems very true, for in the abbreviation of the life of king Edmund, in Regiſter Curtey's, fol. 211‡, we find this account: "In the 15th year of king Edmund's reign, the Danes came again to Eaſt England, to revenge themſelves further of the king, at which time they burnt the monaſteries of Crowland, Thorney, Peterborough, Ramſey, Soham, and Ely, with moſt of the religious in them, and from thence paſſed through the country from Weſt to North, ſeizing and ſpoiling all they could, Ubba ſtaying to guard their ſpoils, and what they had taken, at or near Ely. Ingwar with his army entered Eaſt England, and went to a city of king Edmund's, called *Theodford*†, where he encamped, and entered ſoon after and burnt it, killing old and young, and raviſhing both virgins and matrons. King Edmund, who was then at Egleſden*, received a meſſage from Ingwar, that if he would renounce Chriſtianity, and worſhip his idols, then they would divide the treaſure with him, together with his kingdom; as ſoon as king Edmund received this meſſage, he marched with his army againſt the enemies,

‡ In the hands of the late ſir Edmund Bacon, Bart.
† Thetford.
* Now Hoxne, in Suffolk.

enemies, and engaged not far off from Theodford, where they fought ſharply from morning until evening, a great number being ſlain on both ſides, for which king Edmund was much grieved, as well for the Pagans deaths, as for thoſe martyrs of his army who died there in defence of their faith; on the morrow the Danes departed, and the king, with what remained of his army, returned to Egleſdune, reſolving never more to fight againſt the Pagans, but if it was neceſſary, to yield up himſelf a ſacrifice for the people, and for the faith of Chriſt. Ingwar, much vexed for the loſs of his men, went again to Theodford, where Ubba came to him with 10,000 men, and joining forces, went to Egleſdune, and there martyr'd the king, in the year of our Lord, 871, of his age 29, and of his reign 15."

At this time, without doubt, was that large mount and ramparts, called Thetford-hill, raiſed by the Danes, in which they encamped, for its being round is a plain demonſtration it is a Daniſh work, raiſed to that height, in all appearance, to command the oppoſite hill, on which king Edmund's army then lay, on the extremity of which ſome of theſe *tumuli* are placed. The moſt remarkable one is called Tut-hill, under theſe the bodies of the ſlain were buried, it being uſual in thoſe days to heap the ſlain upon the earth, and raiſe hills over the heaps, that being more likely to continue their memory, than interring them in a pit, or grave level with the earth's ſurface; and uſually where any commander or great men were laid, they raiſed the hill over them to a larger ſize than ordinary, which might be the reaſon of this hill being bigger than the reſt.

The college revenues at its diſſolution were valued at 95l. 15s. it had a manor, and the impropriate rectory†, and 102 acres of land in Ruſhford, a manor in Lidon, and Larling advowſon, and other tenements of their founder's gift, who built them a college on the ſouth ſide of the church-yard, with a dormitory, refectory chapel, and other convenient offices, part of which are ſtill ſtanding, and others are in ruins.

In 1470 the lady Anne Wingfield, by the conſent of ſir Robert Wingfield, her ſecond huſband, ſettled in mortmain her manors of Ruſhworth, and Larling, called Gonvile's manors. This and a few others were the chief of its endowment, though it had other lands and tenements in Thetford, Fakenham, in Suffolk, Weſt-Harling, and Weſton: It was governed by ſtatutes, confirmed by Thomas Piercy, biſhop of Norwich, in his viſitation, the heads of which, as they ſhew the ſtate of the college, it will not be amiſs to inſert.

"The college had a maſter, or cuſtos, and five brethren, or fellows, who were to obey their maſter in all things lawful, the maſter to have the cure of the pariſh, and all of them were to pray for the ſouls of ſir Edmund Gonvile, their founder, and of all his anceſtors, ſucceſſors, and benefactors, every day, and to ſay ſuch daily maſſes and collects as are therein ordered, and to keep the founder's anniverſary in a particular manner, all which would be to no purpoſe to enlarge upon; as the revenues increaſe the number to increaſe, and every new fellow to have ten marks per ann. at leaſt, and neither

† The rectory was taxed at eight marks according to the Lincoln taxation, and after its impropriation paid according to that valuation to the biſhop, at every vacancy of the maſterſhip.

neither the maſter nor fellows to be removed, unleſs for ſuch crimes as would remove a rector; they are all to ſleep in one room, and to eat in common together, unleſs in ſickneſs, the maſter to receive a ſtipend of 50s. a year, and each fellow 30s. (over and above the other ſtipend). The maſter to be elected by the fellows; if he be one of the college, the majority is ſufficient, but if he be not, then there muſt be two parts of the fellows, and if the votes be equal, and two choſen, the biſhop is to chooſe which he pleaſes; every maſter thus elected, before he be confirmed by the biſhop, muſt go to the manor of Larling, and preſent himſelf to the founder's heirs, if they be there, and if not, he may go to the biſhop, who is to confirm him; and if they do not chooſe in three months after a vacancy, it lapſes to the biſhop, who muſt collate one of that college. In every vacancy the fellows are to chooſe one of themſelves to look after the college affairs, who is to account to the next maſter; the fellows to chooſe the fellows, and each fellowſhip void above ſix months lapſes to the biſhop; every fellow that leaves the college ſhall leave half his goods to it, and at their admiſſion ſhall ſwear obedience to their maſter, and to promote their college; the fellows were obliged to conſtant reſidence, and could not lie one night out of the college, without their maſter's leave; the maſter was at full liberty as to his reſidence, but could not have any of his own family admitted to any office in the college without the conſent of the majority of the fellows; the college to have a common ſeal, which, with the evidences and treaſure, ſhall always be kept in a cheſt, with three locks, the maſter to have one key, and ſuch two fellows as all the fellows ſhall chooſe to have the other two; the maſter and fellows to make up their accounts every Michaelmas, and lock up one part of the account in

the cheſt, and the maſter to keep the counterpart. The biſhop reſerves power for him and his ſucceſſors to viſit, correct, and reform, what he thinks neceſſary, together with all epiſcopal power, juriſdiction, and other rights whatever belonging to his church of Norwich. Dated at Shouldham, July the 13th, 1360."

This collegiate church was built in form of a croſs, the choir, north and ſouth croſs ailes, are quite demoliſhed, though there are two grave-ſtones in the north croſs aile, ſtill to be ſeen in the yard, but no inſcription on them: the nave is now uſed by the pariſh, and a ſmall part of it at the eaſt end, ſeparated from the reſt, ſerves for a chancel; there is a very good ſquare tower, having only one bell, though there have been five or ſix, the frames ſtill remaining; it is a good building, and ſeems to be of the ſame date with the foundation of the college. The whole is covered with reed.

There are two hatchments in the church, with the arms of Buxton quartering Herne; Buxton impaling the former coat of pretence, quartered with per chev: vert, and or. three lions paſſant, counter-changed.

On a black marble, on the ſouth ſide of the altar, —*Hic requieſcit quod mortale fuit Roberti Buxton, viri integerrimi, ex antiqua proſapia de channons in agro Norfolcienſi oriundi, obijt* 15° *die Julij, anno ætatis* 32°, *ſalutis* 1691°.

On a ſtone by it,—*Elizabeth Buxton, died July* 4, *anno Dom.* 1730, *ætat.* 66.

On a ſtone in the ruins of the choir,—*John Buxton, eſq. died Oct.* 27, *anno Dom.* 1731, *ætat.* 47.

This town was in Kenninghall Soken and the church is a donative, the Rev. William Kemball being curate.

SNAREHILL, or SNARESHALL-HOUSE, which is deemed extraparochial, and (with the lodge, now called Thetford-lodge,) is all that remains of two villages, Great and Little Snarehill; Great Snarehill belonged to Thurftin, of Thetford, a freeman in the Confeffor's time, when he had two carucates of demefne; Little Snarehill belonged to Ailvin, or Elgar, of Thetford, who had one carucate, and to Aleftan, an Engliffhman, in the Conqueror's time, when it had 300 fheep belonging to it, five hives of bees, and was of 20s. value. The extent of both was a league long, and half a league broad, and paid 11d. ob. gelt.

Thurftin, of Thetford, had four free-men that had thirty-five acres, which he held under Roger Bigot, who held the whole towns of the Conqueror's gift, (except Bury abbey's part) all which the faid Roger feoffed on his priory at Thetford at its foundation, and Herbert bifhop of Norwich, and William Bigot, his fon, confirmed it; by this means the church and all its revenues came wholly to that houfe, who got it appropriated to them very early; for it was in ruins in the time of Edward III. being then valued at 30s. there are fcarce any remains of its foundation, though its fcite is well known; it ftood near Snarehill-houfe.

It continued in that priory till its diffolution, and then went with it to the duke of Norfolk, by whofe family it was afterwards fold, or forfeited, and has fince paffed through feveral hands, as the Cleres, fir Edward Clere being lord in 1571, &c. till it came to the

the Buxtons, and Robert Buxton, esq. of St. Margaret, in South Elmham, dying seised, Elizabeth, his wife, had it, who is now dead, and Elizabeth, their daughter, is the owner of it.

The part of which Fulcher held of Bury abbey was held in the time of Henry III. by the 15th part of a fee of Wortwell manor, which was held of the abbey by William Fisher, and John Byntliton.

In 1410 Thomas Welde, clerk, gave to Thetford monks all his lands and tenements which he had of Mary, his mother, lying in this place.

In 1411 Edmund Heyford, of Bernham, gave them two tofts, and sixty acres of ground, and liberty of a free-fold in Snarehill, to encrease their revenues, and maintain them the better; the Bury part was included in this.

There was a family sirnamed of this town, of which Benedict de Snarshill lived in 1256.

The leet always belonged to the hundred, but there being no suiters to it in the place, it hath been omitted many years. The whole was in Kenninghall Soken, which may be the reason of the tradition of its belonging to Kenninghall at this time; it is valued with Rushworth to the king's tax, and paid 26s. 8d. to the tenths.

The part on which Thetford-lodge stands, was Little Snarehill, and that where the house stands, Great Snarehill; there are no other inhabitants but these two families. We do not find there was ever any church in Little Snarehill, which is now owned by P. Champion Crespigny, esq.

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